

Ohio Association of Community Colleges President Jack Hershey recently asked the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Higher Education to fund the plan in the biennial budget (HB 49) if the Department of Higher Education doesn't approve the grant.

"We were supposed to receive news about whether we would be awarded this grant from ODHE last month, but still have no word," he said. "If the proposal is either not funded or awards are still not named by the end of May, we would ask the Senate to include the requested funding in the budget."

Mr. Hershey said the plan signifies a commitment on the part of community colleges to reduce how much students pay for textbooks - something the as-introduced version of the budget forced institutions to do.

The governor's spending bill required state institutions to cover the cost of student textbooks while allowing them to increase tuition \$300 to offset the purchases.

Altered in the House, the latest version of the bill requires institutions to report on their cost-saving efforts, but doesn't set a specific goal.

Chancellor John Carey has advocated for the inclusion of a defined objective, such as a certain percentage of savings over the course of the biennium. Higher education stakeholders who opposed the original budget say they're confident they can make strides toward textbook affordability without it. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, May 2, 2017](#))

Institutions are also opposed to a provision regarding College Credit Plus textbooks. Under the House version of the budget, institutions and school districts would split the cost evenly. Currently, the latter pays the full price for textbooks.

Mr. Hershey said the community colleges' grant proposal could also address concerns in that arena since a majority of students enrolled in CCP take basic introductory courses that are the focus of the OER plan.

"We think this is a real cost savings not only for our students, but K-12 districts providing College Credit Plus," he said.

Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green), chair of the Senate subcommittee reviewing higher education portions of the budget, said he's intrigued by the OER proposal because it's unlikely the upper chamber will restore original budget language on textbooks.

"I'm very interested in moving the ball in that direction and I think textbooks and instructional materials and all of those things are still an important issue for the legislature to be engaged with," he said.

Mr. Hershey said that there are some OER materials currently available to instructors, but creating them through a collaborative process for exclusive use at Ohio colleges would ensure their availability and consistency with course standards.

He added that he'd hoped ODHE would have announced grant winners in April as originally intended because the project relies on faculty input and many professors are not available in the summer.

ODHE spokesman Jeff Robinson said Monday that the agency is still in the process of reviewing the grants and "should be announcing something soon."

Property Tax Reimbursements Contribute To Significant April Underspending

Ohio's lagging tax revenue was again balanced by significant underspending on the other side of the ledger in April.

While the Medicaid program, a consistent source of underspending, came in below estimates, it wasn't the main contributor to disbursements coming in more than 10% below what analysts expected.

Property tax reimbursements accounted for the bulk of the \$289.7 million underspending reported in April, according to the Office of Budget and Management's Monthly Financial Report.

That total means the state was 10.3% below estimates on spending, along with coming in 6.4% below revenue estimates for the month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 3, 2017)

Disbursements from the General Revenue Fund were \$2.519 billion, or \$289.7 million below what analysts expected, according to OBM. Total revenue was \$2.682 billion, or \$182.6 million below projections.

The lagging revenue, driven by slowing economic growth, has caused lawmakers to keep a watchful eye on tax receipts as they prepare the next biennial budget. For the fiscal year to date, total revenue is 5%, or \$1.47 billion, below what the state expected.

Spending, meanwhile, is below estimates by \$1.17 billion, or 3.8%, through April.

Property tax reimbursements made up the bulk of April's underspending at \$234.8 million, or nearly 60% below estimates. For the year to date, property tax reimbursement spending is \$143.9 million, or 10%, below estimates. The variance is due to requests from counties coming later than anticipated, according to OBM, and total disbursements for the latter half of the fiscal year are anticipated to be somewhat below estimates.

Debt service payments in April were also \$16.1 million, or 21.8%, below projections, due to the use of unspent bond proceeds in the site development program to offset debt service and interest rates on recent bonds being below estimates, according to OBM.

The Medicaid program continued its trend of underspending, though at a more modest rate than recent months. For all-funds spending, it came in \$55.25 million below projections, at just under \$2.1 billion, according to the Legislative Service Commission's Budget Footnotes.

For the fiscal year to date, the Medicaid program is \$1.28 billion, or 5.7%, below estimate, with GRF spending \$873 million less than anticipated.

For the year to date, the largest positive variance in Medicaid was in the Medicare buy-in category, driven by increases in Medicare Part B premiums. Other Medicaid spending that was above estimates included payments for the comprehensive primary care program, which began making payments to participating practices in February.

Ohio Property Owners Sue Over Planned Pipeline

Dozens of northeast Ohio property owners are suing a company behind the development of a planned natural gas pipeline for allegedly violating their due process rights.

In all, 39 households - comprising 65 individuals - have signed onto the complaint filed late Friday in the U.S. District Court's Northern District of Ohio. Defendants include Nexus Gas Transmission LLC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Nexus does not comment on ongoing litigation, but has touted the benefits of the project, which is aimed at transporting shale gas to high-demand markets in Ohio, Michigan, Chicago and Ontario.

"By expanding access to natural gas in these markets, NEXUS will provide consumers across the region with affordable, cleaner-burning and domestically-abundant natural gas to help meet the growing demand for cleaner power generation, industrial and commercial use, and home heating," the company said.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit include 26 households that are among those targeted by eminent domain and 13 others that reside within 1,200-1,500 feet of the "blast or impact radius" of the pipeline.

They're requesting a preliminary and permanent injunction against FERC in order to halt the project and calling for the commission to vacate its prior Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The FEIS, the group contends, violates the National Environmental Policy Act, "ignores critical filings by stakeholders, lacks evidentiary support, (and) is contrary to FERC's own findings."

But the plaintiffs' larger complaint centers on the use of eminent domain and claims that FERC failed to provide adequate information regarding homeowners' options when it comes to the project.

"Plaintiffs have been given false and misleading information from FERC," the lawsuit contends. "This false and misleading information is designed to trick plaintiffs into waiving their constitutional and legal rights. Further, the FERC process offers plaintiffs no meaningful opportunity to contest the taking of their property and is deficient in many respects."

Like Nexus, FERC does not comment on ongoing or pending litigation.

Plaintiffs claim that FERC neglected to tell property owners a pipeline cannot move forward until after a certificate is issued by FERC, and that the FERC's test for an issuance takes into consideration how many property owners refuse to sign an easement.

They claim that the company began approaching landowners regarding easements in February 2016 - four months prior to the project's draft environmental impact statement and nine months before the FEIS.

In addition, they claim there is no evidence the export pipeline will serve a public use and therefore the use of eminent domain in this case is a violation of both the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the Natural Gas Act.

"Nexus' taking is unconstitutional because it does not constitute a public use," the complaint reads. "The public benefits from not having their property taken to export a commodity to enrich a foreign entity."

Rover Pipeline Company Seconds History Connection's Request For Federal Dispute Resolution

Rover Pipeline LLC has agreed that federal assistance is needed in sorting out a dispute with Ohio History Connection.

OHC CEO Burt Logan earlier wrote to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission saying that the company - which is building the Rover Pipeline - has failed to live up to its end of a memorandum of agreement. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, May 12, 2017](#))

The agreement spells out how the company plans to support historic preservation in the state and was developed after the company improperly demolished the 173-year-old historic Stoneman House in Carroll County last year.

The company's obligations under the agreement include in part the creation of: a \$1.33 million endowment; a \$50,000 archeological database; a \$1 million community historic preservation fund. But the History Connection argues the company has failed to make good on that promise.

Rover has now responded to the OHC's request, with attorneys writing in a [letter](#) to FERC Acting Chairwoman Cheryl LaFleur the company "agrees that the commission's assistance is needed to resolve (the) dispute."

In the letter, Rover's attorney said the company "believes any additional contribution is unwarranted and unfair and Rover is willing to vigorously defend itself against any attempts to leverage any additional contribution."

But Rover and OHC are on the same page when it comes to their desire to enlist a third-party mediator. And like the OHC, Rover's attorneys also want the resolution process fast-tracked.

"Certain facts regarding the generation and completion of the MOA and the handling of the mitigation monetary provision were misleading and in error, and therefore we do believe that there is an impasse to resolution at this time," Rover's attorneys wrote.

"Given the high-profile nature of this project, Rover requests that this matter be assigned directly to the director of the Dispute Resolution Service, Deborah Osborne, for further proceedings. Rover also requests that an Administrative Law Judge be assigned to oversee the limited discovery that may be needed to resolve and illuminate these issues."

Groups Call For Greater Access To Attorneys For Youths; Legal Wrangling Over Autopsies Continues; New Attorneys Take Oaths...

Three groups on Monday asked the Ohio Supreme Court to strengthen rules to restrict circumstances in which youth proceed through court without counsel.

In a letter sent to the high court, the Ohio Public Defender, the ACLU of Ohio, and the Children's Law Center wrote that a 2012 rule change that prohibits courts from allowing waiver of counsel by children facing felony charges until they have privately conferred with an attorney does not go far enough.

"Ohio can and should extend the same provisions within Juv. R. 3 to any cases in which out of home placement is possible, including misdemeanor and status cases," the letter reads. "Such appointments should be made without consideration of the income level of parents, guardian or custodian as mandated by law, and incorporated into the proposed rule. Courts do not interpret this provision consistently across counties, resulting in some youth risking the denial of appointed counsel unnecessarily."

In 2015, the letter says, 77,771 cases involving delinquency and status offender youths were heard in juvenile courts in Ohio. In as many as 42% of the cases, youths were not appointed a public defender or assigned counsel or there was no reimbursement sought, the groups claim.

"No child should navigate the juvenile delinquency system without the benefit of counsel, regardless of where they live or the nature of the charge. Ohio courts have come a long way in ensuring this happens, but this proposed rule levels the playing field for all kids," Kim Tandy, executive director of the Children's Law Center, said in a statement.

Added Jill Beeler, deputy director of the Office of the Ohio Public Defender: "Fifty years after the Supreme Court's decision in *Gault*, we still have kids making snap decisions that can impact their lives for years without the benefit of having a lawyer. It is important that a child has a lawyer to review the charges, explain the court proceedings, and most importantly, speak for them in court - be the child's advocate. That is how our system of justice was intended to work."

Rhoden Case: Pike County Coroner David Kessler is unsurprisingly opposed to providing a newspaper access to records he is fighting to keep private.

In response to a motion filed by *The Columbus Dispatch* to compel access to in-camera filings of unredacted copies of the autopsies of eight individuals murdered in Pike County, Mr. Kessler said granting the request would make the case moot.

"*The Dispatch* is not entitled to access this under seal filing because such access would both moot the case and expose sensitive confidential law enforcement investigatory records. *The Dispatch* had a full opportunity to put evidence on the record, which it did, and contest respondents' public evidence, which it also did," he wrote in the latest filing in the case.

"As this court has previously held, an under seal submission of the contested records, after a full opportunity to present evidence and brief the issues in the case, does not violate a relator's due-process rights."

In its motion to compel, the newspaper wrote it is "entitled to fair notice and an opportunity to confront, cross-examine, and respond to such evidence and whatever other 'behind-closed-door' submission respondents made."

The case, and another filed by *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, stems from the coroner's refusal to provide unredacted copies of the final autopsy reports, which the newspapers claim are public records.

However, Mr. Kessler, along with Attorney General Mike DeWine, has argued the reports are covered under an exception to the public record law for investigatory documents, and their release could negatively impact the ongoing investigation into the murders.

New Attorneys: Nearly 200 new attorneys were sworn in Monday during the May bar admission ceremony.

Justice Patrick Fischer offered remarks during the ceremony at the Palace Theater, while Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor led the new attorneys in the professional oath.

Of the 436 applicants to take the bar exam in February, 224 received passing scores.

Moot Court: Gilmour Academy in Lake County recently emerged victorious the 2017 Ohio Moot Court Competition.

The competition, hosted by the Center for Law-Related Education, involves an oral argument appealing a case already decided by a lower court.

Attorneys and judges presided over the cases involving ten high schools. Justice Fischer was one, the high court's media arm reported.

"It's a skill of standing up and speaking to a group of people and defending your view point and it's not a skill that's developed in schools these days. Whether they go into law or business, they have to stand up in front of people and defend a presentation to their boss. It's a skill they can use forever," he said.

Springfield High School came away as runner-up in the competition.

Agency Briefs: Fraud Cases Encountered by DOC, BWC, Auditor; SOS; ODA; DAS; AG; ODJFS; OEPA

The Department of Commerce announced that Michael D. Mathew of Pataskala, has pleaded guilty to over a dozen counts of fraud, theft, and misrepresentation of a security after the state filed a criminal referral.

Operating as an investment firm called Mathew Investments, LLC, Mr. Mathew solicited money from investors who believed that it would be traded on the stock market, according to DOC. Instead, Mr. Mathew used the money to repay other investors and cover his own losses.

Mr. Mathew could receive up to 120 months in prison, and his hearing is scheduled for July 10, 2017.

Workers' Compensation: The Bureau detailed a recent case of compensation fraud, in which an office manager from Hocking County attempted to save her employer over \$52,000 in workers' compensation premiums by falsifying payroll reports.

Carla Mohler will be found guilty of workers' compensation fraud unless she performs community service, completes a course on controlling workers' compensation, and pays the BWC the cost of investigating her case, the bureau reported.

BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison emphasized that the BWC offers many programs which could lower employers' compensation premiums. "All employers need to do is call us and we'll work with them. Cheating BWC is a perilous path that jeopardizes a company's future while raising costs for everyone else in the system," she said in a release.

In the month of April, the BWC closed seven cases of workers' comp fraud.

State Auditor: Dave Yost announced that three checks bearing his name were recently cashed near Dayton and are under investigation by state and local authorities. The checks used the account number of the Mahoning County Treasurer's Office.

"For the record, the Auditor's office has not had check-writing authority in 10 years," Auditor Dave Yost said. "If anyone receives a check from our office, call law enforcement because it's bogus."

The Mahoning County Sheriff brought the checks to the attention of the Auditor's office after they were cashed, Mr. Yost reported. The Auditor's Office is holding a conference about fraud detection on May 16-17.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted announced that 9,569 new entities have filed to do business in Ohio in the month of April; 263 more than the same month in 2016.

This increase is attributed to the use of Ohio Business Central, the online business filing site launched four years ago by Secretary Husted. Over 240,000 filings have been processed on this website since its inception, and three out of every four entities which filed completed the process online.

According to the Secretary of State, 2016 was the seventh consecutive year with an increase in the filing of new entities.

Agriculture: The Department is introducing two new nutrient management tools: the Ohio Applicator Forecast and the Ohio Agricultural Stewardship Verification Program. The new programs are intended to help farmers improve water quality.

Several experts will be holding a discussion to explain the new tools. Director David Daniels, representatives from the National Weather Service, and local farmers will demonstrate each program and answer questions.

The discussion will be held 2-3 p.m. Wednesday at Drewes Farms in Custar.

Medical Marijuana Control Program: DOC recently held an online Q&A session concerning the cultivator application process.

The first section of answers has been published, and include explanations of some of the requirements for a cultivator license. In response to a question about the high level of financial security required for cultivating, the MMCP stated, "To control supply and ensure adequate production, licensees need to demonstrate sufficient resources to address the significant risk within the marijuana industry. Failure to thrive can directly affect the ability to provide products to patients."

Due to the large volume of questions, the rest of the answers will be posted online during the week of May 15. The rules, applications, and instructions for cultivators can be found on the Medical Marijuana Control Program's website.

Administrative Services: The department is holding an auction of surplus property on Saturday, May 20.

Surplus property includes items which are damaged or have reached the end of their lifespan of use by the government, as well as property surrendered to the TSA during pre-flight screenings. The auction includes items such as a Trauslen freezer, Champion air compressor, and a set of pallet racks. Other electronic appliances, computer equipment, and office furniture will also be available for bidding.

The auction will take place at the DAS General Services Division headquarters, 4200 Surface Road, Columbus, 43228. The doors will open at 8 a.m., and the auction will begin at 9 a.m.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine announced that a group of several states, including Ohio, will join with the federal government in a settlement with the benefits company CareCore National LLC.

The settlement will resolve allegations that CareCore improperly authorized certain medical procedures which were then covered by Medicare and Medicaid. The allegations contend that CareCore set up a system which automatically approved hundreds of requests for radiology services as medically necessary, without the proper evaluation by medical professionals. This allegedly benefitted CareCore by allowing them to maintain the demand for preauthorization radiology services and avoid financial penalties for late reviews.

CareCore will pay \$54 million to the federal government in the settlement, and \$18 million of that sum will go toward state Medicare programs, Mr. DeWine reported. The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Ohio Attorney General took part in the multi-state investigation efforts and settlement negotiations with CareCore.

Job and Family Services: The Department released a statement on Thursday, recognizing May as Foster Care Month in Ohio and encouraging Ohioans to become kinship and foster caregivers.

"Ohio has more than 14,000 children in foster care, and the people who provide them with safe, stable homes are true champions," ODJFS Director Cynthia Dungey said. "I'm grateful to them for their dedication and generosity, and I encourage more Ohioans to consider joining their ranks. Being a foster parent can be challenging but also extremely rewarding. It's a rare chance to make a lifelong, positive difference in the life of a child."

Foster parents must be licensed by a county public children services agency or private agency certified by the ODJFS. A directory of county agencies can be found on the ODJFS [website](#).

Environmental Protection Agency: The Ohio EPA recently presented [several grants](#) to communities and businesses in Central Ohio.

Litter Management Grants were given to the Delaware General Health District, Knox County, Morrow County Recycling & Litter Prevention, City of Hilliard, and Franklin County Municipal Courts. Community Development Grants were given to the Ross Pickaway Highland Fayette Joint Solid Waste Management District and Columbus City Schools. Market Development Grants were given to the North Central Ohio Solid Waste Management District and Franklin County Economic Development and Planning. A Scrap Tire Grant was given to North Central Ohio Solid Waste Management District.

Ohio EPA Recycling and Litter Prevention Office grants total \$5 million this year.

Public Events: The United States Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment will be performing a large-scale ceremonial drill at the Statehouse at noon Tuesday. The event will take place on the West Lawn and is free and open to the public.

The first Ohio Business and Career Expo will take place on May 17 at the Ohio Expo Center's Cardinal Hall, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus.

The Expo will focus on the support of equal employment opportunities and the expansion of access to state contracts for minority-owned businesses. Attendees will be able to connect with recruitment and procurement officials from state agencies, universities, and other government entities.

The event will last from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public. More information can be found on the Department of Administrative Services' [website](#).

Kaptur, Ryan, Portman, Brown Introduce Bills To Protect Pensions; Stivers; Beatty; Latta...

Ohio delegates in both chambers of Congress put forward proposals to protect at-risk pensions in recent days.

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) and U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles) joined Sen. Bernie Sanders in introducing companion legislation they call the Keep Our Pension Promises Act.

The sponsors said the bill would protect the pensions of up to 10 million workers through a legacy fund within the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation. It would cover that funding by closing tax loopholes sponsors say benefit the wealthiest Americans.

"It would strengthen our country's pension plans and provide additional funding to the PBGC so that no man or woman needs to worry about whether or not they are going to receive their rightfully owed pension," Rep. Ryan said in a statement.

Added Rep. Kaptur: "Pensions are deferred income and retirees are owed these earned benefits. My bill with Sen. Sanders ensures that we do right by our people."

In the upper chamber, U.S. Sen Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland) introduced their bill to safeguard the pensions of retired miners. The legislation is aimed at shoring up the 1974 Pension Plan, which participants fear is barreling toward insolvency.

"We must protect the hard-earned pensions of our nation's coal miners," Sen. Portman said. "While we made some progress by securing a permanent healthcare fix, we must continue to fight for their pensions - income they worked hard to secure that is at risk due to no fault of their own."

Sen. Brown added that miners have earned the right to not be concerned about their financial futures.

"Ohio miners worked their lives underground to power our country and were promised that when they retired from this backbreaking work they could do so with dignity," Sen. Brown said. "They aren't asking for a handout - they are asking for what they earned for decades of hard work. We should honor that promise to our miners and their families so they can access the full pensions they've earned."

Health: U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus) reintroduced a bill to improve awareness and research on concussions and related injuries.

One in five high school athletes will sustain such injuries during the season, she said, and yet communities lack adequate understanding of their long-term effects.

"The Concussion Awareness and Education Act is all about protecting and treating our nation's student athletes and servicemembers living with concussive injuries," Rep. Beatty said. "We can and must do more in coordinating research, treatment, education and awareness about concussions by bringing all stakeholders, coaches, parents, researchers and policymakers to the table."

Energy: U.S. Rep. Steve Stivers (R-Columbus) joined Democratic Rep. Jackie Speier to reintroduced a bill the pair says will reduce energy costs and mitigate pollution for businesses by tweaking the tax code.

"I support an all-of-the-above energy strategy to encourage the production and development of both traditional and renewable sources of energy," Rep. Stivers said. "Our tax code plays an important role in allowing new and innovative sources of energy to come to market, and this bill will allow companies to compete on a level playing field."

Infrastructure: U.S. Rep. Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) and U.S. Rep. Dave Joyce (R-Novelty) authored a bill the sponsors said will restore flexibility to states and municipalities in meeting wastewater and stormwater needs.

"This legislation will provide additional tools and flexibility for communities to comply with mandated wastewater infrastructure improvement projects," Rep. Latta said. "With more than \$21 billion worth of water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs in Ohio, it's critical to provide communities with the ability to meet their obligations in a more cost-effective manner."

Development: Sen. Brown criticized the U.S. Department of Agriculture's recently announced plan to downgrade the department's Rural Development program.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the move, along with a host of others, at an event last week in Cincinnati. As part of that move, the agency will eliminate the undersecretary for rural development position, which currently requires Senate confirmation.

"I welcome the extra emphasis on trade and look forward to working with USDA to sell Ohio ag products around the world," Sen Brown said. "But I do not support eliminating the undersecretary for Rural Development. Ohio counts on USDA Rural Development for support for everything from combating opioids, to building hospitals, to securing loans for local businesses to grow and create jobs."

Drugs: Sen. Portman and a host of senators from both parties wrote to White House Budget Director Mick Mulvaney, urging the administration to fully fund the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

The White House earlier has proposed slashing funding for the center, which senators argue has a proven success rate.

"Healthcare, lost productivity and criminal justice costs associated with addiction are estimated to cost \$193 billion annually, whereas every \$1 invested in prevention yields a savings of up to \$10," the senators wrote. "Therefore we must invest in effective prevention programs, and continue to support the Drug Free Communities program."

Governor's Appointments

Unemployment Compensation Review Commission: Edward D. Good of Shadyside was reappointed for a term beginning May 15 and ending February 26, 2023.

Ohio State University Board of Trustees: John W. Zeiger of Columbus for a term beginning May 15 and ending May 13, 2026.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, May 17

Casino Control Commission, Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rail Development Commission, 1980 W. Broad St., Columbus, 11 a.m.

Thursday, May 18

State Teachers Retirement System, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Friday, May 19

Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, OSU South Centers, 1864 Shyville Rd., Piketon, 9:30 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, May 16

Treasurer Josh Mandel, university leaders news conference on transparency, Inter-University Council of Ohio, 10 West Broad Street, Suite 450, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) news conference regarding 2018, King Arts Complex, Smoot Board Room, 67 Mt. Vernon Ave., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, May 23

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) fundraiser, The Keep, 50 W. Broad St., Columbus, 4:30 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Tuesday, June 20


Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) fundraiser, Tony's, 16 W. Beck St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Friend: \$350 to Committee to Elect Michael Sheehy)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

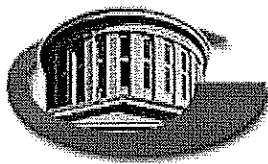
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, May 16

Legislative Committees

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8100), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HBCOMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAINING (Sprague, R., Howse, S.) To authorize a tax credit for expenses incurred by an employer to train a commercial vehicle operator. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBHIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES (Rogers, J., Scherer, G.) To enact the "Blair Deduction" to allow an individual obtaining a post-secondary degree or credential from an eligible educational institution to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBWELL FUND (Cera, J., Hill, B.) To limit the amount of revenue that may be credited to the Oil and Gas Well Fund and to allocate funds in excess of that amount to local governments, fire departments, and a grant program to encourage compressed natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 116, 9 a.m.

HBBWC BUDGET (Brinkman, T.) To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs. (7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

Senate Finance: Health & Medicaid Sub. (Committee Record) (Chr. Hackett, B., 466-3780), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Invited budget testimony on opioids, Department of Aging and Department of Health

Senate Finance: General Government & Agency Review Sub. (Committee Record) (Chr. Jordan, K., 466-8086), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Invited budget testimony from Ohio Attorney General, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Transportation, Secretary of State, Ohio Expositions Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Insurance, Liquor Control Commission, Department of Youth Services, Department of Taxation, Office of the Governor, Department of Veteran Services and public testimony

House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Dever, J., 466-8120), Rm. 114, 9:30 a.m.

HBMORTGAGE LENDING (Blessing, L.) To create the Ohio Residential Mortgage Lending Act for the purpose of regulating all non-depository lending secured by residential real estate and to limit the application of the current Mortgage Loan Law to unsecured loans and loans secured by other than residential real estate. (1st Hearing-Proponent)

House State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 113, 10 a.m.

HB AGENCY REVIEWS (Faber, K.) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a **51** schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HBSCHOOL GRANTS (Hambley, S., Kick, D.) To allow community improvements board grants to a school **134** district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB DAY DESIGNATION (Patmon, B.) To designate June 12th as "Superman Day." (3rd Hearing-All **135** testimony-Possible vote)

HB DEATH CERTIFICATES (Householder, L.) To allow a coroner to change the cause, manner, and mode of **146** death in a filed death certificate only after a hearing in the court of common pleas. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBCEMETERY REGISTRATION (Stein, D.) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the **168** Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

SB POLICE CHIEF TRAINING (Hite, C.) To require the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission to **37** develop and conduct a chief of police training course for newly appointed village, city, and township chiefs of police. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), South Hearing Rm., 11 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Dennis Bartels and Srikanth Gaddam, State Board of Career Colleges & Schools

SBSCHOOL TECHNOLOGY & SAFETY (Gardner, R., Terhar, L.) To require the Ohio School Facilities **8** Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3506), Rm. 119, 11:30 a.m.

House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 113, 1:30 p.m.

HB ROOFING CONTRACTORS (Patton, T.) To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. (1st **164** Hearing-Sponsor)

HB CHILD CARE CENTERS (Retherford, W.) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers. (2nd **77** Hearing-Proponent)

HB BUILDING INSPECTIONS (Roegner, K.) To permit a general contractor or owner of specified buildings **128** to enter into a contract with a third-party private inspector or a certified building department for building inspection and to make other changes relating to building inspections. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Criminal Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Manning, N., 644-5076), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m.

SB PROTECTION ORDERS (Bacon, K., Manning, G.) To provide that service of a protection order or **7** consent agreement upon a person is not necessary for the person to be convicted of the offense of violating a protection order if the person had actual notice of the order or agreement and the person recklessly violated its terms. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

SB LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA (Eklund, J.) To allow disclosure of information from the law enforcement **33** automated data system (LEADS) to a defendant in a traffic or criminal case. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB AGGRAVATED MURDER (Greenspan, D.) To provide that purposely causing the death of a first **38** responder or military member is aggravated murder and to require an offender to serve the prison term

imposed for felonious assault on a peace officer, investigator, first responder, or military member consecutively to the prison term imposed for any related offense. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Dever, J., Gavarone, T.) To permit a person who is found not guilty or is the defendant in a dismissed case to apply for an expungement of the person's records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or finding of not guilty resulted from the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking, to permit a person convicted of certain prostitution-related offenses to apply for the expungement of any record of conviction of an offense, with certain exceptions, if the person's participation in the offense was a result of having been a victim of human trafficking, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

HB VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a potential victim of voyeurism, to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance, and to prohibit an owner, operator, administrator, or employee of a care facility from creating, sharing, reproducing, or publishing any image of a care facility resident without a proper purpose and without prior written consent from the resident. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

HB COURT JURISDICTIONS (Craig, H., Seitz, B.) To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

House Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Landis, A., 466-8035), Rm. 122, 2:30 p.m.

SB 2 ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS (Hite, C.) To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Finance: Higher Education Sub. (Committee Record) (Chr. Gardner, R., 466-8060), North Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m.

- Invited budget testimony

House Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Seitz, B., 466-8258), Rm. 116, 3 p.m.

HB DISASTER WORK (Ryan, S.) To create the Disaster Relief Act to exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB NUCLEAR ENERGY (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the zero-emissions nuclear resource program. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 3 p.m.

- 1st Hearing-Sponsor & Possible vote on BWC Budget Bill (HB 27)-Pending referral

House Education & Career Readiness (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 644-6711), Rm. 121, 4 p.m.

HB COMPUTER SCIENCE (Carfagna, R., Duffey, M.) With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology grant program for the 2018-2019 school year; and to make an appropriation. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB SCHOOL CHOICE (Koehler, K.) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB SCHOOL TESTING (Thompson, A.) With to regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Federalism & Interstate Relations (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Roegner, K., 466-1177), Rm. 115, 4 p.m.

HB CONCEALED WEAPONS (Wiggam, S.) To eliminate the requirement that a concealed handgun licensee **142** notify a law enforcement officer that the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun when stopped. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB CONCEALED WEAPONS (Hood, R., Brinkman, T.) To allow a concealed handgun licensee to carry **201** concealed all firearms other than dangerous ordnance or firearms prohibited by state or federal law; to repeal the requirement that a licensee stopped for a law enforcement purpose promptly inform an approaching officer if the licensee is carrying a firearm and provide for expungement of convictions based on a violation of the requirement; and to provide that a person age 21 or older and not prohibited by federal law from possessing or receiving a firearm does not need a concealed handgun license in order to carry a concealed firearm and is subject to the same laws regarding concealed firearm carrying as a licensee. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HC MINER PROTECTION (Cera, J.) To urge the Congress of the United States to enact the Miners **8** Protection Act of 2017. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HR E-CHECK (Young, R.) To respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to amend the Federal **85** Clean Air Act to eliminate the requirement to implement the E-Check Program and direct the Administrator of USEPA to begin new rule-making procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act to repeal and replace the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; to respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to pass legislation to achieve improvements in air quality more efficiently while allowing companies to innovate and help the economy grow; to urge the Administrator of USEPA to alleviate burdensome requirements of the E-Check Program and the Clean Air Act if Congress and the President fail to act; and to encourage OEPA to explore alternatives to E-Check in Ohio. (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Agency Calendar

Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Assessments, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 4:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Treasurer Josh Mandel, university leaders news conference on transparency, Inter-University Council of Ohio, 10 West Broad Street, Suite 450, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) news conference regarding 2018, King Arts Complex, Smoot Board Room, 67 Mt. Vernon Ave., Columbus, 10 a.m.

US Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment performance, West Lawn, Statehouse, Columbus, 12 p.m.

Ohio Association of Health Plans Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 5 p.m., (RSVP to Stacy Bewley at sbewley@oahp.org or for any questions call 614-228-4662)

Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) and Rep. Dick Stein (R-Norwalk) fundraiser, Little Palace, 240 S. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Gary Scherer and/or Stein for State Representative)

Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville) & Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) fundraiser, Pins Mechanical Company, 141 North 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000 Host | \$500 Sponsor | \$350 Attendee to Team Burke and Friends of Bill Reineke)

Rep. Margaret Conditt (R-Liberty Township) fundraiser, Condado Downtown, 132 S. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Margy Conditt)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

FW: Invite to Coalition for Public Safety's May 31st Event in Columbus

1 message

Ronnie Lampard <rlampard@alec.org>
To: Ronnie Lampard <rlampard@alec.org>
Cc: Montana Hyde <mhyde@alec.org>

Tue, May 16, 2017 at 11:13 AM

Dear Ohio ALEC Legislative Members,

I hope all of you are doing well.

I wanted to invite all of you to this event hosted by U.S. Justice Action Network at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium on May 31st at 6PM titled, "Law, Order, and Sensible Justice Roundtable." A reception will follow after the event. For additional information, please see the attached invitation. Thank you!

Ronnie

Ronald J. Lampard

Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Director
American Legislative Exchange Council
RLampard@ALEC.org
(571) 482-5028



Sensible Justice Invite - May 31 - Columbus.pdf

140K

Law, Order, and Sensible Justice Roundtable

HOSTED BY: COALITION FOR PUBLIC
SAFETY, THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE AND
THE OHIO JUSTICE & POLICY

Hear from criminal justice practitioners about how we can
improve Ohio's justice system.

Reception to follow!

DATE & TIME

Wednesday,
May 31
6–8 p.m. EST

LOCATION

Ohio Statehouse Atrium
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

FEATURING

**Carter
Stewart**

Former U.S. Attorney for the
Southern District of Ohio

**Senator
John Eklund**

Ohio State Senate,
District 18

**Judge John W.
"Tim" Rudduck**

Clinton County
Common Pleas Court

Additional panelists to be announced

Please RSVP by [clicking here](#) and following the registration instructions.



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



THE COALITION
FOR PUBLIC SAFETY





Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Getting to the Near Future, and Beyond

1 message

Bartlett Cleland <bcleland@alec.org>

Tue, May 16, 2017 at 12:01 PM

To: latoursm@gmail.com

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

Center for Innovation and Technology



Facebook



Twitter

Getting to the Near Future, and Beyond

The promise of the world of tomorrow is just an empty promise long held out as being made good. But now we really do stand on the precipice of the future. We can peer into the near future with clarity, optimism and certainty. Everything we know today will change, be reimagined and be used in new ways with greater access. From work to play, powerful networks and new tech applications will be the foundation for the next generation of services. How so? Take a look here for a glimpse into the near future.

But it takes allowing people to operate in a truly free market to make that near future the reality of today. That is to say the innovation needed to get to the near future will not happen by accident, it will not happen with any sort of central planning and it will not happen without the states.

According to CompTIA's CyberStates , the definitive guide to national, state and metropolitan area tech sector and tech workforce analytics, while many tech issues are addressed at the federal level, the states play a significant role as well. The states show a wide variance as to which are performing the best where innovation and policy are concerned.

The CompTIA ranking indicates Oregon's economic impact by tech is larger by a significant margin than in any other state. Washington clocks in with the second largest economic impact, with Massachusetts, California and Colorado following close behind. Innovation per capita is part of the reason, with California coming in first, followed by Massachusetts, Washington, Colorado and New Jersey.

The top states for tech sector employment is also an important part of the story, with California (1,186,470 employees) again leading the pack, followed by Texas (592,960), New York (377,740), Florida (318,340) and Massachusetts (300,630).

This ranking is made even more interesting when compared to the Consumer Technology Association's. This scorecard ranks the states while keeping in mind, "New technology and innovative online platforms are threatened by overreaching mandates and outdated rules in local, state and federal governments. We educate policymakers to ensure the innovation economy is protected from laws and regulations which delay, restrict or ban the development of technologies."

Earning top marks as states that are "Innovative Champions" in no particular order include Utah, Colorado, North Dakota, Michigan, Washington, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The laggards are noted in no particular order as Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Put these lists together and it seems some states are coasting on past good policy that is not keeping up or headed in the wrong direction—threatening our near future. California jumps out as the most obvious.

Meanwhile, Massachusetts, Colorado and Washington seem to be living up to their potential and trying to grow from there.

States will need to become increasingly diligent in making sure current laws and regulations do not hinder the advancement of innovation. In addition, new proposals will need to be viewed through an innovation lens, taking a hard look to make sure new proposed laws or regulations do not stand in the way of creative ideas, processes, business models, services or products. A good start is to take a look at the model policies created by the ALEC Communications and Technology Task Force to determine what a state needs. Work needs to be done in many places. Without determination by legislators and regulators, the promise of the near future will devolve into a present failure.

Sincerely,

Bartlett Cleland



Share



Tweet



Forward



Share

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



marketing cloud

We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



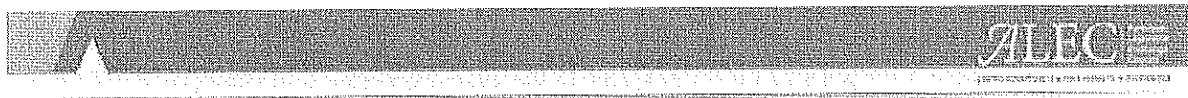
Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Sarah, here are your ALEC Annual Meeting details!

1 message

Mia Heck <mheck@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Tue, May 16, 2017 at 2:00 PM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

Dear Representative LaTourette,

Thank you for being a member of the Task Force on Health and Human Services I am writing to inform you of some upcoming deadlines for the ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver, CO on July 19–21, 2017.

This is a very exciting time to enact true market-based reforms in health and human services. At the next meeting we will be discussing important reforms related to the Obamacare repeal and replace bill, reforms to the Medicaid program, as well as best practices in public policy that touch the lives of all Americans. I hope to see you at the ALEC Annual Meeting Friday July 21, 2017 from 2:30 – 5:30, to be immediately followed by an HHS Task Force reception.

Please see below for some important dates related to our meeting:

June 5, 2017 – 45-Day Policy Submission Deadline. **If you would like to introduce new model policy please send me the draft language by that deadline.**

- June 15, 2017 – 35-Day Notice Published. This will contain a draft of the Task Force Meeting Agenda and model policies scheduled for consideration and review at the Task Force Meeting.
- June 6, 2017 – Early Bird Registration Deadline
- June 26, 2017 – Housing Deadline
- July 4, 2017 – Standard Registration Deadline
- Friday July 21, 2017 – Health and Human Services Task Force Meeting

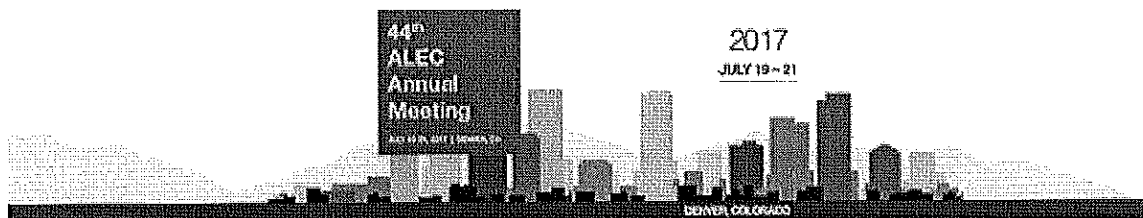
To vote on model policies and engage in the important policy discussions, click below and register for the ALEC Annual Meeting.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Feel free to reach out to me for any questions! My email is MHeck@alec.org and my direct number is (571) 482-5022.

Thank you for your attention & warm regards,

Mia Heck
Task Force Director
Health and Human Services



7/25/2018

Gmail - Sarah, here are your ALEC Annual Meeting details!

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

Powered by



marketing cloud

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Tuesday, May 16, 2017

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
To: sml@sarahlatourette.com

Tue, May 16, 2017 at 6:58 PM

[OHIO REPORT](#)[View in a browser](#)[News](#) [Bill Tracking](#) [Legislation](#)

OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, MAY 16

BWC Budget Prepped For House Floor Vote Over Democrats' Objections**Testa Proposes Opt-In Program For Centralized Business Tax Collection
As Admin Officials Push Back On House Budget Changes****ZEN Hearings Continue As FirstEnergy CEO Mobilizes Shareholder
Support****Groups Indicate Openness To Medicaid Long-Term Care Plan, Urge
Support For Waiver Programs****Gun Advocates Push For Bills To End Notification Requirement,
Concealed Licensing****Proponents: Child Sick Care Bill Would Help Parents Hold Jobs When
Kids Are Ill****Rep. Clyde Announces Bid For Secretary Of State****Higher Education Institutions Post Expenditures On Ohio Checkbook
Website****Politics Notebook: Tiberi To Skip Senate Race; Rosenberger Endorses
Potential Successor; Bishoff Replacement Process Set; Whaley Hits On
Drinking Water**

Team Backing Drug Price Issue Includes Prominent Democrats, Republicans

Governor's Appointments

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Senate Committee Hearings

Education

Finance: Health & Medicaid Sub.

Finance: General Government & Agency Review Sub.

Finance: Higher Education Sub.

House Committee Hearings

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

Insurance

Ways & Means

State & Local Government

Energy & Natural Resources

Public Utilities

Criminal Justice

Federalism & Interstate Relations

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

Education & Career Readiness

Finance

ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)

4 attachments



May16.htm
75K



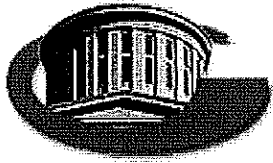
May16Senate.htm
28K



170516dayplan.htm
33K



May16House.htm
117K



GONGWER Ohio

The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #86, Report #94 -- Tuesday, May 16, 2017

BWC Budget Prepped For House Floor Vote Over Democrats' Objections

Late changes to the two-year budget for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation continued to prompt Democrats' concerns Tuesday as the bill nevertheless cleared two committees and is on its way to a House floor vote.

One of the more contentious changes made in the substitute version of the \$566.5 million measure (HB 27) unveiled last week was removed in the House Insurance Committee. Democrats, however, objected to several other provisions and subsequently voted against the report.

Key remaining sticking points for the minority party are provisions that: reduce the time allowed for filing claims from two to one year; bar illegal aliens from workers' compensation coverage; and prohibit state agencies from making rule changes that entail a "substantive or procedural retrospective effect." ([Latest Comparison Document](#))

Democrats offered amendments to remove all of that language, with Republicans defeating the proposal on illegal aliens and tabling the others.

Prior to the Insurance Committee's debate on the revised bill, [Rep. Michael Henne](#) (R-Clayton) won support for an amendment to remove a provision that had prompted considerable criticism last week.

(See [Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2017](#))

The substitute language would have created a "rebuttable presumption" for firefighters filing cancer claims, requiring them to prove that they had used their protective equipment properly. Rep. Henne's amendment replaced that provision with language that instead places the burden on the employers of firefighters to prove, based on scientific evidence, that the cancer in question could not have resulted from a firefighter's exposure to a carcinogen while on the job.

Representatives of the Ohio Association of Professional Firefighters and the Ohio Municipal League testified in support of the change.

Karen Turano, a workers' comp attorney speaking for the OAPF, had prepared testimony in opposition to the sub bill language but ended up relaying support for the new provision, saying that such determinations should be based on scientific fact rather than a doctor's opinion.

Her comments prompted [Rep. Steve Huffman](#) (R-Tipp City) to remark that the entire BWC system is based on medical opinions. The lawmaker also pointed out that attorneys for injured workers could also ask for second opinions.

Ms. Turano acknowledged that option, but noted that workers have to incur the costs of those other examinations. As for Mr. Huffman's earlier observation, she said, "I understand that is the status of our workers' compensation system now. I don't think it's a great status."

Josh Brown, director of communications for the Ohio Municipal League, said his group was supportive of the updated firefighter cancer language.

Responding to a question from Rep. Mike Ashford (D-Toledo), he said OML was a proponent of the bill in general but that the group would probably return to the legislature with more requests for workers' comp law changes at some point.

Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) offered an amendment to delete the reduction in the claims filing period, arguing that it was prudent to allow more time because some injuries take a while to manifest themselves and workers may not realize the extent of their woes. He characterized the GOP's shortening of the filing period as "taking away the rights of injured workers."

Rep. Henne said the purpose of the amendment was to get claims filed more quickly so they do not worsen and end up costing the system more money down the line. The quicker claims get filed the less the likelihood that the severity of the claim will increase, he said.

Rep. Boccieri was also critical of the sub bill language on or undocumented workers, calling it a "legislative smokescreen" that would result in unscrupulous employers getting a "blank check" and off the hook for workers' comp costs. It would also shift those expenses to taxpayers when those injured workers have to go to the hospital and receive uncompensated care, he said.

Rep. Henne said the language was meant to remove a "defense" for people who hire illegals. He said the injured employees could still go to court and sue their employers.

That logic was questioned by Rep. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus) who said it wouldn't be practical for an illegal alien to go to court and face other legal problems.

Chairman Rep. Tom Brinkman (R-Cincinnati), before calling for an up or down vote on the amendment versus a tabling, stated: "The point is, don't be illegal...and therefore you won't have these problems."

The amendment was defeated on party lines.

Rep. Boggs offered amendments to remove the rule language from the bill and allow for first responders to get coverage for post-traumatic stress disorder. Both were tabled along party lines.

Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford) defended the rule change restrictions, saying the legislature had ceded too much authority to the legislative branch over the years. He called the provision appropriate, adding, "And frankly, it's about time."

Chairman Brinkman said the PTSD issue would be vetted in committee next week in separate legislation (HB 161).

Rep. Ashford lamented the fact that the vote on the bill had turned partisan, saying it started out as sound legislation.

"The original bill was pretty good until we started adding all these statutes of limitations," he said. "This bill has some really controversial issues in it...that came out of the blue somewhere."

Rep. Brinkman pushed back on that notion, saying he had worked closely with a variety of interested parties in crafting the sub bill.

"We worked a lot of good things this budget...that should stand as we move this thing along," he said.

Finance Committee: The budget-writing panel took up the bill later in the day Tuesday per a rule that requires it to review measures with appropriations.

Rep. Brinkman went over the changes made in his committee (Testimony) and Barbara Ingram, the BWC's chief financial officer, reiterated statements that Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison had previously delivered to the Insurance Committee. (Testimony)

Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) and other Democrats continued to question the Insurance Committee changes and eventually joined together in opposing the bill, which cleared the committee on party lines.

"What is the purpose of making this bill about immigration?" Rep. Ramos asked.

Rep. Brinkman said the language on illegal aliens stemmed from past legislation sponsored by Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati). He noted that illegal immigrants aren't eligible for food stamps or unemployment benefits either, so the majority believed it was prudent to include the workers' comp prohibition.

The chairman continued to maintain that the bill would serve as a "disincentive" to both employers and illegal aliens, saying the latter would have recourse through the courts if they are injured on the job.

"We're not just closing them out and sending them along their way," Rep. Brinkman said. "We're trying to create a disincentive for both workers who are here illegally and employers" who hire them.

Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) raised concerns about what she deemed the lack of vetting before putting the provision in a budget measure. "This isn't something there were hearings on," she said, adding that the proposal appeared to be "totally based on assumption" rather than facts.

Citing Mr. Seitz and Governing Magazine, Rep. Brinkman said there are 8 million illegal aliens currently employed in U.S., mainly in construction and farming, so it's likely that a few hundred thousand of those are in Ohio.

Responding to a question from Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati), Mr. Brinkman said the language on firefighter cancer does not apply to police claims.

Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) questioned why the firefighter cancer law (SB29, 131st General Assembly) was being amended when it just became effective in April. He said the state doesn't have any experience with the changes on which to base revisions.

Rep. Brinkman said the original bill "cried out for something to be put in place right away" and cities also "felt like something needed to be put in there" to limit cancer claims to those incurred at work.

"We've kind of raised the bar" in making sure such claims are valid, he said.

Responding to Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson), who opined that some injured workers may not make the new one-year deadline under certain circumstances, Rep. Brinkman said 99.8% of claims are filed within that timeframe. The chairman said the change, which was backed by NFIB/Ohio, would give businesses more predictability and encourage the claimants to file more quickly.

Ms. Ingram was asked to comment on the House changes, but said the bureau has not had time to review the proposals. The bureau reported that an actuarial review of SB29 found that it could cost the system about \$74 million a year, which could be realized through rate adjustments to public employers.

Among the unanswered questions was one from Rep. Patterson, who asked about the financial impacts of changing the statute of repose for the firefighter cancer law from 20 to 15 years.

Prior to voting the bill, the panel also heard from Seamus Culligan, a firefighter from Willoughby who has been diagnosed and treated for brain cancer, and his wife, Cyndie. They asked that the firefighter cancer claims law not be changed.

"His illness is an injury," Ms. Culligan said.

Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville), who sponsored SB29 when he served in the Senate last session, told the witnesses that the changes in the bill would not impact Mr. Culligan's coverage.

The lawmaker did, however, question why the law was already being amended given it's only a month old.

Rep. Cera said before the vote that the BWC and IC budgets should be reviewed in the Finance Committee, noting that members were not allowed to offer amendments and had to vote on the spending and policy provisions after just a single hearing.

Finance Chairman Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) said the process of including other committees aimed to spread the workload during the busy budget season.

Testa Proposes Opt-In Program For Centralized Business Tax Collection As Admin Officials Push Back On House Budget Changes

Tax Commissioner Joe Testa is looking to compromise on a controversial executive budget proposal to centralize the collection of municipal net profit fee taxes that was nixed in the House.

The administration presented the budget (HB 49) plan to mandate business tax collections through the Ohio Business Gateway as a way to save municipalities money on administrative costs despite a 1% service charge paid to the state.

However, municipalities opposed the proposal, characterizing it as a power and money grab by the state. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 7, 2017)

The House subsequently scrapped the proposal in favor of a more modest plan entailing improvements to the OBG and phased-in permissive filing authority for businesses. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 21, 2017)

In response, Commissioner Testa on Tuesday asked the Senate to consider a further revised plan that would allow businesses to opt-in for tax administration that's performed by the Department of Taxation.

"We heard a number of municipalities testify in the House that some businesses prefer to continue to have their local municipality administer their net profits tax," he said. "We listened to these and other comments and are addressing these requested changes."

Those businesses that opt in would file one return through OBG rather than with each municipality in which they do business, Mr. Testa said. Businesses commit to five years in the program with an automatic renewal unless they cancel the service.

ODT will distribute the tax collections with interest - minus a 1% administrative fee - to appropriate municipalities each month, he said.

"The revised proposal significantly reduces compliance costs for businesses that opt-in, takes advantage of economies of scale leading to a more efficient and streamlined tax system, is less costly than third-party administrators and improves compliance by cross-checking with other data that can be accessed by ODT, thereby increasing revenue for the municipalities," Mr. Testa said. "Everyone wins with this proposal."

ODT is also seeking spending authorization of \$2.25 million in Fiscal Year 2018 and \$5 million for Fiscal Year 2019, he said. Those totals are the anticipated administrative fees that would be collected for the tax centralization.

The commissioner told the panel that his agency's amendment has been in the works since last month and he has not heard any negative feedback on it as of yet.

Mr. Testa was one of a handful of agency directors to testify on House budget changes before the Senate Finance Subcommittee on General Government and Agency Review on Tuesday.

Department of Veterans Services Director Chip Tansill said he'd like to work with the Senate to revise House language requiring the agency to create a job website and peer-to-peer program for Ohio's veterans - both of

which already exist in some capacity.

"There are several exemplary veteran peer-to-peer operations already in existence around Ohio," he said, adding: "We believe that private programs like Bunker Labs, Overwatch Partnership, and others in Ohio already are doing a wonderful job and that the directive would be unable to be carried out without specific funding."

"We look forward to continuing to work with the Senate on this provision and believe DVS could better serve to inventory these programs and make them known to more Ohio veterans," he said.

Meanwhile, OhioMeansVeteranJobs.com already serves as an "easy entry point to build civilian resumes, match their skills to Ohio's in-demand jobs and find military-friendly employers," Mr. Tansill said.

Department of Youth Services Director Harvey Reed asked lawmakers to return dollars back to line items that received across-the-board cuts, particularly those that pay for community programs.

"Cuts to those line items will directly impact our DYS population in that courts will send more youth to DYS facilities due to fewer available diversion dollars," he said. "In short, courts will be faced with less funding for options that are alternatives to DYS facilities."

He said that any short-term savings from cuts to diversion programs would ultimately result in long-term costs tied to creating more space at DYS facilities.

The subcommittee also heard objections to House changes from Environmental Protection Agency Director Craig Butler, who spoke out against language regarding Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Settlement Funding, and Department of Natural Resources Director James Zehringer, who criticized amendments regarding mineral interest owners.

Attorney General Mike DeWine, meanwhile, offered support for a House-added provision that would infuse an additional \$3.5 million into crime labs to fund opiate case work.

"They've just been swamped with drugs coming in and it's not just the volume of drugs coming in but it's the complexity," he told the panel. "What we're seeing now usually is a mix particularly in the opiate area. It just takes a lot longer so the crime labs, including our chemistry section, are just overridden with all this coming in."

Subscribers Note: Full testimony is available on the subcommittee's [website](#) under May 16.

ZEN Hearings Continue As FirstEnergy CEO Mobilizes Shareholder Support

Proponents and opponents on Tuesday continued to clash over a proposal to support Ohio's nuclear plants as FirstEnergy CEO Chuck Jones urged shareholders to redouble pressure on lawmakers to pass the bill.

Shortly before the House Public Utilities Committee met to consider the controversial bill ([HB 178](#)) for a third hearing, Mr. Jones addressed company shareholders and the media during a shareholder meeting in Akron.

There, he reemphasized that the bankruptcy of the company's subsidiary, FirstEnergy Solutions, remains on the table without the proposed ZEN support. He also said that even with the zero-emission nuclear credit program, the subsidiary's fiscal health is not assured.

"The need for this action is demonstrated by the fact that nuclear facilities across the nation are closing prematurely," Mr. Jones told shareholders. "For example, four nuclear facilities in Wisconsin, Vermont and Nebraska have already shut down, and at least seven others across this region are in danger of closing. We simply cannot allow this to happen in Ohio and Pennsylvania - so if you share our concerns and live in either state, I encourage you to reach out to your local senator or representative."

Mr. Jones, who previously testified in support of the House bill, is expected to testify before the Senate Public Utilities Committee this week during the second hearing of its companion bill ([SB 128](#)). (See [Gongwer Ohio](#)

Report, April 25, 2017)

At the Statehouse Tuesday, scores of stakeholders packed into a hearing room and a nearby overflow area to follow the latest round of debate on the House bill.

Proponents continued arguing the bill would support jobs and economic growth by staving off the potential closures of FirstEnergy's Davis-Besse and Perry plants and the economic calamity that would accompany them.

"There's just no doubt that the region and entire state benefits from having FirstEnergy as a strong corporate partner," Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro said. "With ZEN in place, FirstEnergy will be able to spend time fostering relationships with customers and the community instead of directing its focus on navigating the uncertainty of the future."

Opponents continued to question what they consider to be a bailout of uncompetitive nuclear plants at the expense of cheaper natural gas.

Ohio State University Professor Ned Hill, clarifying that he is not speaking on behalf of OSU, called the financial engineering behind the proposal "fanciful" and said that if a projected gap in nuclear power production is filled with out-of-state power "the subsidy can grow to nearly \$11.2 billion" over the program's 16-year lifespan.

"It is the latest in a multi-year series of attempts by Ohio's (investor-owned utilities) to thwart the intent of the state of Ohio to allow competition in the market for electricity generation and provide lower prices for Ohio's electricity users," Mr. Hill said.

"FirstEnergy has been consistent," he added. "It is looking for subsidies for its non-competitive power generation units, and it looks to Ohio's Statehouse and its Ohio customers as the source of subsidy for its loss-making Ohio and Pennsylvania power plants."

Responding to Rep. Mike Ashford (D-Toledo), Mr. Hill expressed skepticism of proponents' job impact studies because they assume no other new jobs will enter the community and also that all FirstEnergy jobs will disappear instead of some being retained under new ownership. "Don't believe the numbers," he cautioned.

But doing nothing in the face of potential plant closures, proponents argue, would cripple local economies. Ottawa County Improvement Corporation Director Jamie Beier Grant sought to put those numbers into perspective.

"Davis-Besse's 600 full-time jobs stimulate another 2,100 jobs in Ottawa County and 1,800 additional jobs in other Ohio industries," Ms. Grant said. "That \$60 million of total annual payroll also flows downstream into every aspect of northern Ohio's economy - residential property ownership, support of local public school districts, professional services, construction and trades, retail, etc."

Ms. Grant said a 2015 Nuclear Energy Institute report determined that for every dollar of output generated by Davis-Besse the local economy sees \$1.66 in output and the state economy produces \$2.25 in output.

NEI President Maria Korsnick seconded that sentiment, opining that the closure of both plants would be result in higher energy costs and long term economic damage. "Getting this right is very important," she said.

"If these plants close, the downstream consequences of premature plant closures are dire and irrevocable," Ms. Korsnick said.

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) questioned the witness on whether the bill would assist outdated nuclear plants at the expense of newer natural gas plants.

"I would look at that and say don't judge by age, judge by behavior," she replied. "These are extremely well maintained assets, very well invested in. Don't judge them by age, judge them by performance."

FirstEnergy and proponents have argued the proposal is similar to programs in New York and Illinois that are currently being challenged in court. But economist James Wilson, speaking for the Natural Resources Defense Council, said the legislation is "not at all similar" to those programs.

"It is not being proposed to support state goals to expand emissions reductions and renewable generation," Mr. Wilson said. "Ohio's renewable portfolio standards and goals are modest compared to those in New York and Illinois and Ohio House Bill 114 would make even those standards voluntary.... Therefore, unlike in New York and Illinois, a nuclear subsidy program in Ohio would not be supporting a long-term state energy and environmental vision and associated goals."

And Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken, another opponent, called the bill "yet another attempt by FirstEnergy to try to manipulate electric price structures in their favor."

"This competitive market is in fact working and thankfully generating billions in direct investment to our community while creating thousands of jobs and millions in tax revenues," Mr. Gerken said, prodding FirstEnergy for its prior support of deregulation. "I respectfully ask that you reject the special fees and market manipulation as described in HB178."

In addition to a number of other opponents, the Buckeye Institute and Environmental Progress testified on the bill as interested parties.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the [committee's website](#) under May 16.

Groups Indicate Openness To Medicaid Long-Term Care Plan, Urge Support For Waiver Programs

Representatives of some nursing facilities signaled a willingness Tuesday to work with the Kasich administration on moving long-term services and supports into Medicaid managed care.

Other groups representing providers helping aging Ohioans also pushed for funding in the biennial budget bill (HB 49) for waiver programs aimed at assisted living and home-based care.

Kathryn Brod, president and CEO of LeadingAge Ohio, told the Senate Finance Health and Medicaid Subcommittee that her members, which include nonprofit nursing facilities, would be open to the managed long-term care proposal offered by the administration if it included sufficient protections.

LeadingAge previously backed the plan, included in the budget by the House, to form a study committee and delay the rollout. She said conversations since then with the Department of Medicaid and other stakeholders have led them to believe a well-designed MLTSS program could be a vehicle for improving quality.

If the state and managed care plans have learned from the MyCare Ohio demonstration project and can avoid the significant payment problems and delays that plagued that program, the system could work, she said.

"We acknowledge that the way our current system of long-term services and supports is structured will not meet the demands of our aging population," she said.

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London), the subcommittee's chairman, asked if managed care would make sense because it can better coordinate services for home-based services and those done in facilities.

"We would agree that managed care offers opportunities, and we are interested in piloting models that would allow us to use some of our communities to pilot some population health issues," Ms. Brod said.

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences also indicated a willingness to work with the MLTSS program if lessons are learned from MyCare.

"MyCare Ohio has indicated that there are opportunities to increase value and improve outcomes. It has also exposed problems in managed care for LTSS," CEO Chris Murray said in a statement. "Learning from these

experiences, and the experiences of our members, The Academy believes MLTSS can be a successful program for the MCOs, the providers, and the frail elderly and disabled we serve. The Academy is in full support of expanding MLTSS. We are looking forward to an improved provider experience and more innovation that drives higher quality at lower cost in the entire MLTSS environment."

Other nursing facility representatives, including the Ohio Health Care Association, have said the system is not ready for MLTSS, and that payment disruptions like those experienced in the MyCare program could jeopardize care. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2017](#))

Waiver Requests: Testifying before the subcommittee, Jean Thompson, director of the Ohio Assisted Living Association, praised some of the House changes, including removal of new fines proposed by the Department of Health and maintenance of the residential care facility licensure in the assisted living Medicaid waiver.

She said her association opposed language added by the House to prohibit an increase in the assisted living waiver during the biennium.

"Unfortunately, Assisted Living providers cannot afford to participate or to increase their participation in this valuable cost saving program, as the program has not received an increase in reimbursement since its inception in 2006," she said.

Asked by Sen. Hackett how new facilities are being built with rates so low, Ms. Thompson said many assisted living facilities get much of their income from private payers, but the lower rates mean they are taking on fewer and fewer people.

Terry Alton, senior vice president of National Church Residences, said lower reimbursement rates make it harder for her facilities to pay for effective caregivers.

She said organizations are struggling to meet their needs under the current PASSPORT waiver rates and assisted living waiver rates.

There also aren't enough caregivers to provide the services that are needed, she said.

"The people caring for our most vulnerable older Ohioans should not themselves have to live in poverty by virtue of their service to this noble mission," she said.

Ms. Alton said her experience with managed care plans has been mixed. Some provide great care coordination, while others have struggled to pay claims in a timely manner, putting a burden on providers.

Cyndi Rossi, legislative liaison for the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, urged the Senate to restore funding for the senior community services block grant, which was reduced from nearly \$16 million in Fiscal Year 2001 to \$7.3 million in FY 2016. The budget reduces the line item by 1.5% each fiscal year.

She asked for the funding to be restored to \$15 million per fiscal year.

AAAs use the money to pay for home delivered meals, among other programs that help older adults stay in their homes.

Gun Advocates Push For Bills To End Notification Requirement, Concealed Licensing

Nearly a dozen backers of a bill that would eliminate the requirement that concealed handgun licensees notify law enforcement of their status urged passage of the legislation Tuesday.

Many brought up situations they say could have avoided had the legislation ([HB 142](#)) been in effect at the time. Meanwhile, members of the House Federalism & Interstate Relations Committee also heard sponsor testimony on legislation ([HB 201](#)) that would eliminate the licensing requirement altogether.

Jeff Garvas, founder and president of Ohioans for Concealed Carry, said just 10 states have requirements to inform.

"Ohio is by far the most intrusive by requiring you to speak when a police officer is in the mindset of absolute control over the conversation and their verbal commands," he said.

Mr. Garvas also said the requirement infringes on one's right to remain silent.

"Isn't it ironic that if you fail to 'promptly' inform a police officer that you are armed and he or she arrests you for the criminal act of not informing 'quickly enough' that they then promptly inform you that you now suddenly have the right to remain silent while you are being handcuffed for the act of remaining silent too long?" he asked.

"This requirement of Ohio law has to be a constitutional conflict with our First, Fourth and Fifth Amendment rights."

Sean Maloney of the Buckeye Firearms Association took issue with a provision in the law that requires a concealed carrier of a handgun to "promptly" inform a law enforcement official.

"The issue becomes the meaning and interpretation of the word promptly," he said. "The problem, the vagueness, the broadness of the interpretation lies in the definition of the word promptly itself."

Rep. David Leland (D-Columbus) asked if he would be open to working on an agreeable definition of the word.

Mr. Maloney said the required should just be removed from law.

Chuck LaRosa, a member of Ohioans for Concealed Carry, called the notification requirement a "poison pill" inserted into the original concealed-carry bill.

"The requirement to notify starts every encounter with law enforcement off on the wrong foot. The citizen is expected to recite this sentence to the officer in order to not go to jail," he said.

"The officer is expected to arrest this person unless they go through the ritual of interrupting the officer and reciting their little sentence, no matter what the situation is or how stressed out the citizen might be. Each and every encounter starts with the premise that the citizen is going to jail unless they do something to prevent it."

Rep. Wes Goodman (R-Cardington) questioned if there are similar reporting requirements in state law for other rights. Mr. LaRosa said he is unaware of any.

Christopher Dorr, executive director of Ohio Gun Owners, said the law as written infringes on the constitutional rights of gun owners.

"Citizens exercising their First Amendment right to free speech are not required to notify law enforcement before doing so. Citizens are not required to notify law enforcement before they exercise their right to peaceably assemble," he said.

"And citizens are not required to placard their homes or persons in order to exercise their right to be secure in their persons or homes against unreasonable searches and seizures, either."

Seven other members of Ohioans for Concealed Carry also provided written testimony in support of the bill, including Richard Troha, a licensee since 2004, who said the law has created confusion among law enforcement officials.

"Not all police officers understand the current law. There have been incidents where licensees have been threatened with arrest even though they were not armed and thus are not required to inform," he said.

Sponsoring Rep. Ron Hood (R-Ashville) called his legislation to eliminate licensing requirements a simple concept.

"If you're legally allowed to possess a firearm, you're legally allowed to carry that firearm for any lawful purpose with no additional permits, fees, or bureaucratic paperwork required," he said.

Under his proposal, the permitting process would be optional. The legislation would also eliminate the requirement to inform.

"Currently, it is legal to carry a firearm openly, but when one puts on a coat or jacket, the individual is subject to multiple hurdles, separating Ohioans from their God-given rights as expressed in the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution," he said.

Rep. Leland said he spoke with the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police, which will be opposing the measure.

"The indication I got back from them was that they were opposed to this one and the other one that deals with letting the officer know about the weapon when it's in the car," he said.

Rep. Hood said he has spoken with individual officers who are in favor of the measure.

"Getting more guns in the hands of law abiding citizens is a positive, not a negative," he said.

Proponents: Child Sick Care Bill Would Help Parents Hold Jobs When Kids Are Ill

Supporters of a bill to create a child sick care license said it would alleviate a burden on parents and keep kids with communicable diseases out of schools and daycares.

Devita Douglas, director of operations with Zakai Care, told the House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee that there are currently no providers who provide child sick care services in Ohio.

She said lower income families rely on child care subsidies to maintain job stability while taking care of children.

"Working mothers regularly send children to school sick, because they don't feel they're able to take time off to care for them," she said.

The legislation (HB 77) would help parents have a backup plan in cases where parents need to find care for sick children without needing to take time off from work. Sick care centers would have licensed physicians, nurses and other medical professionals on hand for children from eight weeks to 12 years old.

"It will benefit every working parent with job security, and help employer's groups maintain productivity," she said. "It will also benefit schools and daycares by reducing the spread of illnesses among other children and teachers."

Sue Peters, director of nursing at Zakai Care, said keeping sick children out of places full of healthy children will lead to fewer sick children.

"The children that do get sick, when they are sent to a daycare, they're getting the other children sick," she said. "So we go from one child to 20 children. Now 20 parents have to take off that day and lose their income."

Ms. Douglas told Chairman Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy) that the development of her center had to stop because there was no state agency that could regulate it.

The business model would be all private pay - parents would pay a monthly membership fee for the service and then a copay on days they use it, she said. The Department of Job and Family Services pays a per diem rate for

child care through the child care subsidy program, but as a sick care service these businesses would not be eligible for that money.

Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) suggested she and the sponsor explore if they could be eligible for some child care subsidy money.

"You might want to investigate whether the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will pay for families to be there under sick care," he said.

Members of the committee also discussed a provision of the bill saying it doesn't apply to facilities in hospitals.

Rep. Steven Arndt (R-Port Clinton) said he didn't want to restrict where these facilities could be if, say, an unused wing of a hospital could be used.

"I really believe there is a need for this service in the communities," he said.

Rep. Young and the bill's sponsor, Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton), said hospitals are already able to provide these services under their current licenses.

"Basically a hospital doesn't need any kind of a license currently to treat a sick child," Rep. Young said.

Ms. Douglas said these kinds of providers would be in place to care for mildly sick children, such as those with colds, not those with severe conditions. The facilities would have staffing ratios of four children to one staffer, she said.

Rep. Clyde Announces Bid For Secretary Of State

Rep. Kathleen Clyde on Tuesday made her long-expected campaign for secretary of state official, telling supporters Ohioans deserve better than what they currently have in terms of government representation.

Her campaign launch speech centered on her involvement in a number of ballot access issues in recent years - from the purging of voter rolls to a court-overturned legal interpretation that barred certain 17-year-olds from voting in the 2016 presidential primaries.

The Kent Democrat has been a frequent critic of Secretary of State Jon Husted and of Republican-backed bills she views as threatening voting access.

"There's a lot more work to do and Ohioans deserve better than what they're getting from their leaders in Columbus," Rep. Clyde said.



Rep. Clyde

Rep. Clyde's announcement positions her as the first Democrat to declare for the race. On the Republican side, Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) has already declared and Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley) is also expected to run. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 1, 2017)

Rep. Clyde was elected to represent the 75th House District in 2010 and went on to win reelection in 2012, 2014 and 2016. Prior to that, she spent stints as a business attorney, deputy legal counsel for former House Speaker Armond Budish, and an election official during the 2008 presidential election.

Kicking off her campaign, Rep. Clyde described herself as a small-town Ohio native who was fascinated by a mock presidential election organized by a grade school teacher.

"What I experienced then was simple and fun and it gave me a lot of pride," she said. "And it looked different than the current situation in Ohio. Instead of making it simpler to vote our state leaders have made it more difficult seemingly by the day."

She criticized Ohio for leading the nation in voter roll purging, with more than 2 million voters purged. She told members of the media the only circumstances in which the purging of rolls is acceptable is after a voter dies or moves out of state.

She promised to bring "accountability and transparency" in the state's top election office and pursue automatic registration. Additionally, she voiced a desire to modernize and streamline both the election and business filing systems.

"Whether your Ohio business is large and growing, or small and home-based, I will insist my office is helpful and streamlined, not unresponsive and bureaucratic, by modernizing the office's tools and prioritizing small businesses," she said.

Part of that modernization effort, she said, would include updating the state's aging voting infrastructure and preparing to combat cyber threats.

Questioned about the Trump administration's tone on potential voter fraud, Rep. Clyde said she agrees with Mr. Husted that such fraud is "virtually nonexistent in Ohio." Mr. Husted previously pushed back on then-candidate Donald Trump's assertions of widespread fraud. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, October 17, 2016](#))

Rep. Clyde also vowed to push to expand and protect voting hours after work and on weekends. "I will ensure registration is simple, you have every opportunity to vote, and every vote is counted," she said.

She criticized the Ballot Board, which is chaired by the secretary of state, for too often succumbing to partisanship when reviewing proposed citizen initiative ballot proposals.

"That is a problem we currently have in Ohio, that the Ballot Board is being used to really play a role in the process of making decisions," she said. "I would want to take a step back from that and lead that in the most nonpartisan way we can to ensure fairness."

She closed by recounting her involvement in pursuing court action against Mr. Husted's order preventing certain 17-year-olds who would be eligible to vote in the 2016 general election from voting in the preceding primaries. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, March 11, 2015](#))

The court ultimately sided with voting advocates and ruled against Mr. Husted who has said his office "properly administrated the law" in that case.

"This is what happens when we work together," Rep. Clyde said of the advocates' success. "It doesn't matter how old you are or where you live, you deserve the right to participate in our election process."

Higher Education Institutions Post Expenditures On Ohio Checkbook Website

Bowling Green State University, Central State University and Central Ohio Technical College on Tuesday became the first higher education institutions to post their finances online for public viewing.

The institution's finances are available on [Treasurer Josh Mandel's OhioCheckbook.com](#), an initiative university leaders announced they'd participate in nearly a year ago.

"Now, fortunately, everyday citizens, students, parents and faculty can access this information on college campuses and follow the money," Mr. Mandel said at a Columbus press event announcing the website's additions.

"The point of this is not so much transparency," however, he added. "Transparency is actually the vehicle for the ultimate point. The ultimate point is empowering everyday Ohioans to hold public officials accountable, transferring the power from public officials to the taxpayers, transferring power from public officials to students and their families so they know how money is being spent on college campuses."



Josh Mandel

BGSU and Central State volunteered to be part of a pilot group of universities going through the process of gathering financial expenditures and transferring them online with the help of the treasurer's office, Inter-University Council President Bruce Johnson said.

Also part of the pilot project are Miami University and Ohio University, whose financials are expected to go live in June, and Wright State University, which will likely post information to OhioCheckbook.com by the end of the year.

"We're excited about it," Mr. Johnson said. "It is not easy to take a complex budget operation," and translate into the website's standard user-friendly format.

He said all student-related data protected by federal laws was removed from what's viewable online.

"That was an interesting and difficult process, but I think we've managed to do that well," he said. "The universities remain committed to transparency."

Curtis Petiss, vice president for administration and CFO of Central State, said now that the university has a handle on the process, it plans to provide regular financial updates to the treasurer's office for inclusion on the site.

Currently, Central State's financials for Fiscal Year 2015 are the only ones available for viewing, he said.

"Central State is committed to transparency and as one of the most affordable public institutions in Ohio and a land grant institution, we are excited about being part of this innovative project," Mr. Petiss said. "It is really something that has helped us be more focused (and) helped us to be a part of the state of Ohio."

Treasurer Mandel said there are no reporting deadlines placed on entities that have agreed to participate in the website because his priority is accuracy of the data.

"This is one of those processes where we don't want to allow perfect to be the enemy of good and if we get good information up there that's accurate, we get it up there and then we can keep adding and building upon it," he said.

The data that was added Tuesday includes more than 27,000 individual transactions representing more than \$39 million in spending by BGSU and more than 7,700 individual transactions encompassing more than \$23 million in spending at Central State, the treasurer said.

Central Ohio Technical College's textbook features more than 36,000 individual transactions totaling \$23 million over the last two fiscal years.

Politics Notebook: Tiberi To Skip Senate Race; Rosenberger Endorses Potential Successor; Bishoff Replacement Process Set; Whaley Hits On Drinking Water

Pat Tiberi, a longtime member of the U.S. House of Representatives, confirmed Tuesday he will not seek the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate in 2018.

The announcement leaves State Treasurer Josh Mandel as the lone announced Republican to challenge incumbent U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown.

Mr. Tiberi, of Galena, had been considered by some as a potential primary opponent for Mr. Mandel, who unsuccessfully challenged Sen. Brown in 2012.

The congressman said he appreciated the encouragement he received to run, but that he wouldn't be able to make the most difference for Ohioans and maintain his family responsibilities while engaging in a statewide campaign.

"Since the beginning of this new congressional term, I have been immersed in leading the historic effort to reform our failing healthcare system and fix our broken tax code," he said. "In doing so, it has become clear to me that I cannot be effective in enacting real change on these critical issues, be the husband, father and son I want to be, and embark on a statewide campaign."

"With these political considerations off the table, I remain focused on serving my constituents and working with the administration to move our conservative agenda forward in Congress," he said. "That is where I can make the most difference for all Ohioans."

Ohio House: Beth Ellis of Sabina announced Tuesday she will run for the 91st House District seat currently held by House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) next year.

Ms. Ellis, a farmer and co-owner of Cherrybend Pheasant Farm, would succeed the speaker, who cannot seek reelection because of term limits.

"I have had the great privilege of serving our community in a variety of ways that have given me a clear vision of the needs and challenges facing our community," Ms. Ellis said in a statement released by the Ohio House Republican Organizational Committee. "My experiences from agriculture to business management, and healthcare to aviation, give me a knowledge base to draw upon for helping at the State level in any way that I can. Speaker Rosenberger has and will continue to be a tremendous inspiration and resource for maintaining the continuity of progress for the 91st District."

Ms. Ellis is vice chair of the Clinton County Port Authority and is a member of the board of directors for the county's convention and visitors bureau. A licensed private pilot, she also worked in radiology at Clinton Memorial Hospital for more than 16 years.

Mr. Rosenberger called Ms. Ellis the "ideal choice" to advance the district.

"With her experience including medicine, small business ownership, agriculture, and philanthropy, there is no better choice to accurately and thoroughly represent the people of the 91st House District," he said. "Beth will be an outstanding advocate for my constituency and I have full confidence in her to work for the people of Highland, Clinton, Pike, and Ross Counties and be sure that their voices are heard in Columbus."

Bishoff Replacement: The Ohio House Democratic Caucus announced Tuesday that it will accept applications from individuals interested in being appointed to the vacant 20th House District seat through Wednesday, May 31.

The person selected for the seat would succeed former Rep. Heather Bishoff, who resigned from the House earlier this month.

Five members of the caucus will interview applicants and make a recommendation to the full caucus.

Resumes and cover letters should be sent to Andy DiPalma, House Democratic Chief of Staff, 77 South High Street; 14th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215 or andy.dipalma@ohiohouse.gov

Whaley-Water: Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley criticized a state budget amendment that she said would impact safe drinking water in the state. She said the plan shifts local authority to the state in terms of addressing lead hazards.

"Instead of working with local community leaders, Republicans at the Statehouse again think they know what's best for our cities and our families," the Democratic gubernatorial candidate said during a joint appearance in Cincinnati with Mayor John Cranley.

"This proposal is an out-of-touch plan from out-of-touch people. This time, their top-down approach could affect clean drinking water. The health of our communities is on the line."

Team Backing Drug Price Issue Includes Prominent Democrats, Republicans

The group backing a ballot initiative intended to lower what the state pays for prescription drugs announced its campaign team Tuesday, and the list includes some well-known political operatives from both sides of the aisle.

Ohio Taxpayers for Lower Drug Prices, the campaign backing the Ohio Drug Price Relief Act, announced more than half a dozen hires, including former top officials at the Ohio Republican Party.

The participants include:

- Rex Elsass, former executive director of the Ohio Republican Party;
- Greg Schultz, former senior advisor to Vice President Joe Biden and Special Assistant to President Barack Obama;
- Matt Borges, former Ohio Republican Party Chairman;
- Ron Malone, who runs polling and consulting firm Strategies Unlimited;
- Tracy Jones, national director of Mobilization Campaigns and Midwest regional director for the AIDS Healthcare Foundation;
- Don McTigue, a longtime Democratic election attorney; and
- Dennis Willard, a former journalist and founder of Precision New Media, a Democratic consulting firm.

"Our amendment will lower drug prices for 3.7 million Ohioans, including 164,000 children, and save lives. Voters can save themselves and all taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. Voters can reduce healthcare costs for everyone. And our amendment gives Ohio voters the power to teach the greedy drug companies and their lush life CEOs a lesson," Mr. Willard, the group's spokesman, said in a statement.

The constitutional amendment issue is expected to be a contentious one and an expensive one. On the ballot last year in California, the proposal failed 46-54% after an expensive campaign in which pharmaceutical groups spent more than \$100 million in opposition.

The proposal, backed by the California-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation, would limit the amount the state could pay for prescription drugs to the lowest amount paid by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Opponents of the plan have said it would be difficult, if not impossible, to implement and would drive up administrative costs while costing the state rebate agreements with manufacturers. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, October 3, 2016](#))

Governor's Appointments

Belmont College Board of Trustees: Edward D. Eberhart of Barnesville for a term beginning May 16, 2017, and ending May 12, 2020.

Advisory Board of the Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives: Deborah Givens Crockett of Columbus, Pastor Mark D. Ford of Akron and Rabbi Avraham Louis Goldstein of Columbus for terms beginning May 16, 2017, and ending May 4, 2018.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2017-013. Requested by Erie County Prosecuting Attorney Kevin J. Baxter. SYLLABUS:

1. A county auditor is required to issue a warrant on the county treasurer to pay the compensation of county employees in an amount that is set forth in a proper order or voucher and, with respect to employees in the classified service of the county, a certified estimate, payroll, or account from the pertinent appointing authorities. (1969 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 69-153, overruled, in part, due to statutory amendment.)

2. A county auditor may not implement a change in the number of days in which a county employee's compensation is paid following the end of a pay period by paying certain county employees compensation for only one week of a biweekly pay period, unless the county appointing authority presents to a county auditor a voucher or order setting forth that amount.

3. A county appointing authority may present a voucher or order setting forth compensation for only one week of a biweekly pay period, so long as such a change does not conflict with a provision of an applicable collective bargaining agreement.

4. A county appointing authority may not present a voucher or order setting forth compensation for only one week of a biweekly pay period, when doing so causes a county employee to be paid his annual compensation in fewer pay periods than is specified in an applicable statute, or to receive in the same number of pay periods less than his full annual compensation in one year.

5. A county appointing authority may not present a voucher or order setting forth compensation for only one week of a biweekly pay period, unless the reduction in pay is supported by one of the reasons set forth in R.C. 124.34.

6. A county appointing authority may not present a voucher or order setting forth compensation for only one week of a biweekly pay period, when doing so violates the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C.A. §§ 201-219 (West Group 1998).

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, May 18

Tuition Trust Authority, 77 S. High St., 31st Fl., Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, May 17

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) news conference on opiate legislation, Harding Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10 a.m.

37th Annual Governor's Holocaust Commemoration, Ohio Holocaust & Liberators Memorial, Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, May 19

Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) shooting fundraiser, Black Wing Shooting Center, 3722 Marysville Road, Delaware, 12 p.m., (12:00pm Lunch; 1:00pm Shooting. Clay Shooting Sponsor: \$2,500; Pistol Shooting Sponsor: \$1,000; Ammo Sponsor: \$500; Clay Shooting & Lunch: \$175/person; Pistol Shooting & Lunch: \$150/person; Lunch Only: \$50/person to Brenner for Ohio)

Monday, June 5

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Rocky River Event Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, 5:30 p.m., (Platinum Event Sponsor: \$1,000; Gold Sponsor: \$175; Silver Sponsor: \$125; Bronze Sponsor: \$50;

Single Ticket: \$25/person to Friends of Dave Greenspan)


Thursday, July 13

Rep. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Golf Club, 211 Carpenter Road, Defiance, 11 a.m., (Golf Outing; Thursday, July 13, 2017; 11:00am Registration and Lunch; 12:00pm Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$2,500; Tee Sponsor: \$1,000; Green Sponsor: \$500; Foursome: \$400; Individual Golfer: \$100 to Citizens for McColley)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, May 17

Legislative Committees

House Transportation & Public Safety (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Green, D., 644-6034), Rm. 017, 9 a.m.

HBDRIVER'S LICENSES (Hambley, S., Rogers, J.) To authorize the issuance of an enhanced driver's license, 60 enhanced commercial driver's license, and enhanced identification card to facilitate land and sea border crossings between the United States and Canada and Mexico, pursuant to an agreement with the United States Department of Homeland Security. (4th Hearing-Interested party-Possible vote)

HBDISTRACTED DRIVING (Hughes, J., Seitz, B.) To establish an enhanced penalty for committing a 95 moving violation while distracted if the distraction is the apparent cause of the violation and to reenact provisions of law that specified that certain electronic wireless communications device violations were allied offenses of similar import. (4th Hearing-Interested party-Possible vote)

HBLICENSE PLATE (Patmon, B.) To create a special license plate for hearing-impaired individuals. (1st 150Hearing-Sponsor)

HBMONTH DESIGNATION (Riedel, C.) To designate May as "Drive Ohio Byways Month." (1st Hearing-159Sponsor)

HBLICENSE PLATES (Henne, M.) To authorize the owner or operator of a specialty kit car to display a 188license plate only on the rear of the car if the owner or operator pays a \$150 fee. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBLICENSE PLATES (Johnson, T., Craig, H.) To establish a program for the issuance of special license plates 194related to military service and awards. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBWHEELCHAIR TRANSPORTS (Ingram, C., Seitz, B.) To modify the provisions concerning the transport 195of persons who require the use of a wheelchair or other mobility aid in nonemergency circumstances. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Health (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HBOPIOID MEDICATIONS (Edwards, J.) Regarding addiction treatment and opioid prescribing by 167physicians and dentists. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBAWARENESS MONTH (Lipps, S.) To designate October as "Ohio Chiropractic Awareness Month." (1st 196Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HBDENTISTRY (Gavarone, T., DeVitis, T.) To authorize the provision of dental services through teledentistry, 184to require a proposal for creation of a primary care dental student component of the Choose Ohio First Scholarship Program, and to make other changes to the laws governing the practices of dentistry and dental hygiene. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Ways & Means (*Committee Record*) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

SB TAX CREDITS (Dolan, M.) To provide that compensation paid to certain home-based employees may be 131counted for purposes of an employer qualifying for and complying with the terms of a Job Creation Tax Credit. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 9:30 a.m.

HBJURY SERVICE (Gonzales, A.) To permit a prospective juror who is a mother who is breast-feeding her 13 baby to be excused from jury service. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBCHARITABLE BINGO (Cera, J.) To reduce the licensing fee for charitable organizations conducting 17 instant bingo on five or fewer days per year, and to allow those organizations to change the location and date of the instant bingo sessions after a license has been issued. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBALCOHOLIC ICE CREAM (Patterson, J., Boggs, K.) To allow A-4 liquor permit holders to manufacture 23 and sell ice cream containing between one-half of one per cent and six per cent of alcohol by volume. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBCONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT (Huffman, S., Sprague, R.) To provide for the establishment of a 145 confidential program for the treatment of certain impaired practitioners and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBCOSMETOLOGY LAW (Roegner, K., Reece, A.) To make changes to the Cosmetology Licensing Law. 189(1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HBFANTASY CONTESTS (Dever, J., McColley, R.) To grant the Ohio Casino Control Commission the 132 authority to regulate fantasy contests and to exempt fantasy contests from the gambling laws. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HBCOMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a 87 finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Aging & Long Term Care (Committee Record) (Chr. Arndt, S., 644-6011), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

- Presentations from the Ohio Association of the Area Agencies on Aging and Leading Age Ohio

Senate Finance: Health & Medicaid Sub. (Committee Record) (Chr. Hackett, B., 466-3780), North Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- Public budget testimony-general issues.

House Higher Education & Workforce Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Duffey, M., 644-6030), Rm. 115, 11 a.m.

HBWORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Reineke, B., Cupp, R.) To revise the laws governing the state's 166 workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Beagle, B., Balderson, T.) To revise the laws governing the state's 3 workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Finance: Primary & Secondary Education Sub. (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

- Budget testimony from Battelle, Charter School Authorizers, Dayton Education Association, Catholic Conference of Ohio, Fordham, Educopia and Ohio Association of Independent Schools

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124),
Rm. 116, 4 p.m. or after session

HB MILITARY TRANSFERS (Perales, R., Craig, H.) To permit persons who quit work to accompany the
158 person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (1st Hearing-
■ Sponsor & proponent)

HB AVIATION HALL (Perales, R.) To establish the Governing Board of the Ohio Aviation Hall of Fame and
183 Learning Center for purposes of establishing the Hall and inducting persons into it. (1st Hearing-Sponsor &
■ proponent)

HB AWARENESS DAY (Thompson, A.) To designate the first Saturday of May as "Veterans Suicide
202 Awareness Day." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
■

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 4 p.m.

HB APPLICANT INFORMATION (Dever, J.) To regulate the collection, use, and retention of certain
187 information obtained from an applicant during the employee selection process. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
■

HB KINSHIP CAREGIVERS (Boyd, J., Rezabek, J.) To require a region-based kinship caregiver navigator
126 program. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
■

HB SNAP (Henne, M., McColley, R.) Regarding eligibility and benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition
119 Assistance program and the Medicaid program. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
■

Agency Calendar

Casino Control Commission, Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Public Benefits Advisory Board, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rail Development Commission, 1980 W. Broad St., Columbus, 11 a.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) news conference on opiate legislation, Harding Press Rm., Statehouse,
Columbus, 10 a.m.

37th Annual Governor's Holocaust Commemoration, Ohio Holocaust & Liberators Memorial, Statehouse,
Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

2017 Arts Day & Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio Luncheon, The Columbus Athenaeum, 32 North
Fourth Street, Columbus, 12 p.m.

Rep. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati) & Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald) fundraiser, Westies
Gastropub, 940 S. Front St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor \$1,000 Host \$500 Friend \$350 to Ingram for the
People and/or Committee to Elect Glenn Holmes)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

House Activity for Tuesday, May 16, 2017

INTRODUCED

HB COLLEGE ADMISSIONS (Brenner, A.) To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring 217 students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission. Am. 3345.43

HB PARK DISTRICTS (Seitz, B.) To expand a probate court's powers and duties with regard to a park district. 218 Am. 1545.06

HB SPEED LIMITS (Bocchieri, J.) To specify that a speed limit becomes effective at a reasonable distance from 219 the appropriate sign giving notice of the speed limit. Am. 4511.21

HB COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Leland, D.) With regard to the use of funds by community schools and 220 nonpublic schools. Am. 3301.97

HB WATER SEWER PROJECTS (Holmes, G.) To expressly include, as eligible projects under the State 221 Capital Improvements Program administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission, water and sewer laterals located on private property. Am. 151.08 and 164.01

HB VOTER ID (Greenspan, D.) To specify that a concealed handgun license qualifies as photo identification for 222 voting purposes. Am. 3501.01

HB STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS (Dever, J.) Relative to transfers of structured settlement payment rights. 223 Am. 2323.58, 2323.581, 2323.582, 2323.583, 2323.584, 2323.585, 2323.586, and 2323.587

HB SCHOOL FOODS (Ingram, C.) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled 224 food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging. Am. 3313.818

HB OIL GAS WELLS (Thompson, A.) To allow a landowner to report an idle and orphaned well or abandoned 225 well, to require the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management to inspect and classify such a well, to require the Chief to begin plugging a well classified as distressed-high priority within a specified time period, and to authorize an income tax deduction for reimbursements paid by the state to a landowner for costs incurred to plug an idle or orphaned well. Am. 1509.071, 1509.34, and 5747.01

HB FIREWORKS (Seitz, B., Sweeney, M.) To establish a fireworks study group to review and make 226 recommendations regarding the Fireworks Law, to extend to July 1, 2020, the moratorium on issuing fireworks manufacturer and wholesaler licenses, to eliminate, beginning January 1, 2021, the moratorium on geographic transfer of fireworks manufacturer and wholesaler licenses, and, beginning July 1, 2020, to impose a fee on the retail sale of consumer grade fireworks in this state and to expand the ability of

individuals to obtain 1.3G display fireworks and obtain and use 1.4G consumer fireworks. Am. 1705.48, 3737.51, 3737.71, 3737.99, 3743.04, 3743.17, 3743.44, 3743.45, 3743.60, 3743.61, 3743.63, 3743.65, 3743.75, 3743.99, 5703.052, 5703.053, 5703.19, 5703.70, and 5703.77 and to enact sections 3737.04, 3737.05, 3737.06, 3737.07, 3737.08, 3737.09, 3737.10, 3737.11, 3737.12, 3743.46, 3743.47, 3743.591, and 3743.67

HBLICENSE PLATE (LaTourette, S.) To create the "Kenston Local Schools" license plate. Am. 4501.21 and **227** to enact section 4503.88

HBGUN LAWS (Johnson, T., LaTourette, S.) To assign to the prosecution the burden of disproving a self-defense or related claim, to expand the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law, and to modify the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law regarding a licensee's duty to keep the licensee's hands in plain sight, the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and the posting of warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises. Am. 307.932, 2307.601, 2901.05, 2901.09, 2923.12, 2923.126, 2923.16, and 2953.37 and to repeal section 2923.1212

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act.

24

HBCOMMUNICATION DISABILITIES (Gavarone, T., Wiggam, S.) To establish a database of persons who **115** voluntarily register as being diagnosed with a communication disability or who voluntarily register a minor child or ward as the parents or guardians of such persons for purposes of law enforcement notification.

HBTAX LEVIES (Brenner, A., Carfagna, R.) To authorize a joint vocational school district to submit the **124** question of a renewal tax levy to voters who did not have an opportunity to vote on the levy at an election held in November of 2015 because the levy was only placed on the ballot in one of several counties in which the district has territory.

REFERRED

Civil Justice:

HBREAL ESTATE APPRAISERS (Dever, J.) To change the definition of "appraisal" for purposes of the Real **213** Estate Appraiser Licensing Law, to make changes to certain procedures and the exceptions to licensure under that law, to regulate appraisal management companies, and to declare an emergency.

Community & Family Advancement:

HB 204 GRANTS DEPARTMENT (Barnes, J.) To create the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures.

Criminal Justice:

SB TRIAL TIMELINES (Eklund, J.) To provide a prosecutor an additional fourteen days to commence a trial **32** after a person charged with a felony has been discharged because the person has not been brought to trial

- within the required amount of time and to authorize the court to release the person from detention in connection with those charges pending trial.

HBPAULDING COURTS (Riedel, C.) To create the Paulding County Municipal Court in Paulding on January 21st, 2019, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Paulding County County Court on that date, to designate the Paulding County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Paulding County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Paulding County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2018.

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor:

HB HOME INSPECTORS (Hughes, J.) To require the licensure of home inspectors and to create the Ohio 211 Home Inspector Board to regulate the licensure and performance of home inspectors.

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development:

HBSENIOR HOUSING (Barnes, J.) To enact the "Senior Housing Relief Act" to prohibit the sale of delinquent 205 property tax certificates for homesteads owned for at least 20 years by a person aged 65 or older at the time of the sale and to prohibit tax foreclosure on such property when the senior homeowner has paid the current taxes in all but five or fewer taxable years.

Health:

HB ABORTION (LaTourette, S., Merrin, D.) To prohibit a person from performing, inducing, or attempting to 214 perform or induce an abortion on a pregnant woman who is seeking the abortion because an unborn child has or may have Down Syndrome.

Higher Education & Workforce Development:

HB SUMMER JOBS (Barnes, J.) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth 203 summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth.

State & Local Government:

SB DAY DESIGNATION (Yuko, K.) To designate July 8 as "Harrison Dillard Day."

62

HB PHOTO MONITORING (Patton, T.) To prohibit a municipal corporation or township that does not operate 207 either a fire department or an emergency medical services organization from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.

HB PHOTO MONITORING (Patton, T.) To prohibit a local authority with a population of 200 or fewer from **208** utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.

HB PHOTO MONITORING (Patton, T.) To prohibit a local authority, in any year, from issuing a total number **209** of traffic tickets based on the use of traffic law photo-monitoring devices that exceeds two times the population of the local authority.

HB PHOTO MONITORING (Patton, T.) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of **210** the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices.

Transportation & Public Safety:

HB AIR COMMISSION (Barnes, J.) To create the Commercial Airline and Air Freight Commission. **206**

HB ROAD NAMING (Householder, L.) To designate a portion of State Route 16 in Coshocton County as the **212** "Staff Sergeant Paul C. Mardis Jr. Memorial Highway."

Ways & Means:

SB AGRICULTURAL LAND (Hite, C.) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the **36** purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.

HBAUTO SALES CREDIT (Hambley, S., Brinkman, T.) To authorize a sales and use tax trade-in credit for **216** purchases of used motor vehicles from a licensed dealer.

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

Commission on Infant Mortality.: Rep. LaTourette as co-chair

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

HB 84 MONTH DESIGNATION (Arndt, S., Patton, T.) To designate June as "Ohio Goes Boating Month." (Enacted)

Signed: May 16, 2017; Effective: in 90 days

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

HBMORTGAGE LENDING (Blessing, L.) To create the Ohio Residential Mortgage Lending Act for the **199** purpose of regulating all non-depository lending secured by residential real estate and to limit the application of the current Mortgage Loan Law to unsecured loans and loans secured by other than residential real estate. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Proponent)

Rep. Louis Blessing (R-Cincinnati) said the bill responds to confusion that has arisen from examiners' interpretations of the current law.

He said the proposal specifies that all mortgage loans - both first and second liens - secured by residential real estate would fall under a single section (ORC 1322) of the law, rather than a different section (ORC 1321) that would cover loans secured by non-real estate collateral and unsecured loans.

The bill would have mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers secure licenses under ORC 1322, which would eliminate a mortgage banker exemption and giving the Division of Financial Institutions authority over all mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers.

"Over the years, examiners have interpreted the statute inconsistently when it comes to mortgage lending. Since Mortgage Bankers are lenders, many of them service the loans they make, even though the actual loan is sold in the secondary market," Rep. Blessing said. "Therefore, they would collect payments."

"The original intent of the statute was that if a Mortgage Broker who was licensed under 1322 collects a payment, they must also license under section 1321," he added. "Mortgage Bankers were only required to license under 1321 if they made second mortgages. Some examiners have interpreted the statute to mean that if a lender or broker licenses under section 1322, they can make all types of mortgage loans, both first and second liens. Some examiners have interpreted the statute to mean that if a lender collect the first payment, they must license under section 1321, even though they may be an exempt lender seller/servicer. Some lenders and brokers have been told during the examination process that they have the wrong license and may find themselves in a position of unknowingly engaging in unlicensed activity."

"Needless to say, the statute is confusing to the mortgage lending industry, examiners, and consumers alike," he said.

Chair Rep. Jonathan Dever (R-Cincinnati) said the sponsor has been working on the bill for more than a year, and added that changes are likely to be brought before the committee.

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) asked whether the bill makes any changes in terms of consumer protections. Sponsor Blessing said the bill doesn't adjust consumer protections and only streamlines the current law and process.

Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay) questioned whether there would be a need to retain old sections of law if the new provisions are enacted.

Insurance

HBBWC BUDGET (Brinkman, T.) To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make **27** appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs. (**REPORTED-AMENDED (See separate story)**; 7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

Ways & Means

HBHIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES (Rogers, J., Scherer, G.) To enact the "Blair Deduction" to allow an **186** individual obtaining a post-secondary degree or credential from an eligible educational institution to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) and Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) said the bill would provide financial relief for those under the burden of debt from tuition expenses and encourage those students to remain in Ohio after they have graduated.

Rep. Rogers said the bill would "offer some relief to those who have invested in themselves and completed post-secondary training. Specifically, it would apply to those students who graduate from a technical program, or earn an associate's, baccalaureate or more advanced degree."

There are a few programs already in place which provide deductions for higher education expenses, but Rep. Rogers explained the differences between those and the proposed bill.

"Whereas the current deduction is allowed up front, at the time of the investment, the deduction we are proposing would be available to the student after he or she successfully completes their education and would be based upon their actual out-of-pocket investment in themselves," he said.

The representatives were questioned by Rep. Louis Blessing (R-Cincinnati), who asked if this bill would end up simply transferring wealth to the university system and allow them to take on more debt. Rep. Rogers acknowledged that risk, but stated that such a risk was worth the chance to attract more young people to Ohio. Rep. Scherer added the distinction that the bill would provide a tax deduction, rather than a tax credit.

HBWELL FUND (Cera, J., Hill, B.) To limit the amount of revenue that may be credited to the Oil and Gas **105** Well Fund and to allocate funds in excess of that amount to local governments, fire departments, and a grant program to encourage compressed natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Representatives from several counties and townships testified before the committee, describing how the bill would help support local infrastructure projects and economic development. The bill would limit revenue credited to the Oil and Gas Well Fund and allocate the excess to support local governments.

Dale Dietrich, president of the Monroe County Township Association, said the measure would help local schools offer more technical courses to meet workforce demands.

"Our local townships would be able to greatly enhance their road maintenance," Mr. Dietrich added. "With the establishment of the county fund, our county would be able to budget their money for the many infrastructures that all of our citizens need. Examples are: water and sewer projects, improved EMS service and, last but not least, better and modernized equipment."

Answering a question from Chairman Rep. Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster), sponsor Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) said the bill would still allocate 14% of funding to the idle orphan well program.

Rick Frio, chairman of MPR Transloading and Energy Services LLC, said the bill is necessary to build on successes that resulted from the shale gas boom.

"We must be in position to welcome these new companies and factories without delay and to do this we need the revenues from the severance tax to return to our area," Mr. Frio said. "The entire state then benefits with job creation and additional tax revenues for many generations."

Franklin Schaffer, a township trustee in Belmont County, said his area is facing six major road and bridge repair projects costing \$900,000. That's just shy of the community's annual budget, he said.

"Some of the roads that have embankment failures no longer are able to receive mail service, school bus pickup for children and emergency and fire vehicle protection," he said. "At some point we may have to close roads until a funding source is found. These situations are happening all over the county."

Rep. Schaffer asked witnesses how they respond to claims from the bill's detractors arguing that the shale region already receives benefits from the increased activity.

Belmont County Commissioner Mark Thomas said that's a misconception in his area and that sales tax revenue is down due to the national retail downturn.

"How does Belmont County directly benefit from the increase in activity because we don't have taxing powers?" Mr. Thomas asked. "No, our coffers at this point are not increased."

Also testifying as proponents were representatives from the Belmont County Port Authority; the Jefferson County Township Association; Pultney and Augusta townships; and Belmont, Guernsey, and Monroe counties.

HB COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAINING (Sprague, R., Howse, S.) To authorize a tax credit for expenses **155** incurred by an employer to train a commercial vehicle operator. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay) and Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland) said their bill would create a 50% match of up to \$50,000 in an annual tax credit to train new truck drivers. The credit would be capped at \$3 million per year.

"Although drivers play a key role in our country's economic success, we continue to face a growing workforce shortage," Rep. Sprague said. "The growing demand for drivers is expected to continue."

Sponsors said the industry faced a shortage of about 38,000 drivers in 2014, which jumped to 48,000 drivers in 2015. Rep. Sprague said these jobs pay well, with the potential to make between \$42,000-45,000 immediately after licensure.

"By increasing training opportunities, this legislation is meant to help reduce the urgent and growing demand for truck drivers throughout the state of Ohio," Rep. Howse said.

Rep. Scherer said many drivers are owner/operators while others are employees. He asked if the bill would include the potential to train owner/operators or is it just limited to employees.

Rep. Howse said the bill's intent is to make the same opportunities available to both classes of drivers.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the [committee's website](#) under May 16.

State & Local Government

HBSCHOOL GRANTS (Hambley, S., Kick, D.) To allow community improvements board grants to a school **134**district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district. (REPORTED-AMENDED; 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Before the bill was unanimously reported, it was amended to clarify that it pertains only to Medina County.

Thomas Ash, director of governmental relations for the Ohio Association of School Business Officials, said in written testimony the legislation is especially important for the county, which currently levies a tax for permanent improvements. It is the only county in the state to do so.

"We believe that the voters of that county intended for the funds to be available for school districts to address their needs with regard to capital outlay, school buses and textbook adoptions," he wrote.

HBCEMETERY REGISTRATION (Stein, D.) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the **168**Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Marilyn Brandt, president of the Ohio Cemetery Association, said the legislation would codify many of the recommendations of the Ohio Cemetery Task Force.

Ms. Brandt also spoke highly of the provision in the bill that would create the Cemetery Grant Program.

Matt DeTemple, executive director of the Ohio Township Association, also spoke in favor of the grant program, saying it will help townships across the state in maintaining more than 2,400 cemeteries.

He said the program will be especially beneficial in light of cuts to local governments in recent years.

"With reduction in revenue that is primarily used for general township purposes, townships have been forced to seek additional revenue. In November 2016, there were 59 cemetery levies on the ballot across Ohio. While a good majority of those levies passed, 15 of those levies were for additional funding and nine of those levies failed," he said.

"Being that the care and maintenance of the cemeteries is mandated by law, a township must find the funds to care for the cemeteries. Unless a township is collecting on a cemetery levy, general fund and cemetery fee monies are primarily used to provide for the maintenance and operation of township cemeteries."

Larry Keough, associate director at the Catholic Conference of Ohio, also spoke in favor of the grant program and how the funding would be awarded, which would be through the Division of Real Estate within the Department of Commerce.

Linda Ellis also provided written testimony in support of the bill.

HB DAY DESIGNATION (Patmon, B.) To designate June 12th as "Superman Day." (**REPORTED** (No **135** testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB DEATH CERTIFICATES (Householder, L.) To allow a coroner to change the cause, manner, and mode of **146** death in a filed death certificate only after a hearing in the court of common pleas. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sponsoring Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford) said the need for the legislation arose after the Franklin County Coroner's Office unilaterally changed the death certificate of a woman who died in a 2014 crash with a drunk driver.

The death certificate originally indicated that the woman died of blunt force trauma from the crash. However, the document was later changed to indicate that she died of melanoma.

"No explanation was given to the family. No explanation was given to the prosecutor. Ron O'Brien was forced to drop the felony-vehicular manslaughter charge, and Mr. Castle walked away with a misdemeanor DUI conviction," Rep. Householder said. "Mrs. Meadows did have melanoma, but melanoma did not kill her. Her death certificate was changed by a coroner who was not even in office when Mrs. Meadows died. In fact, the original coroner still stands by the original death certificate."

Rep. Householder said that was not the only time a death certificate was changed in Franklin County.

"This bill is not about tying the hands of our coroners. It is about transparency and ensuring that our coroners, law enforcement and prosecutors are on the same page so that Ohio's families can find justice," he said.

Rep. Householder also said the legislation is about financial impacts, including insurance and death benefits.

"This is not only about what's fair and right for Ohio families, but it also has a significant financial impact," he said.

Chairman Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walnut Hills) questioned how often death certificates are changed by coroners.

Rep. Householder said it is rare, but he did not have a figure to share.

Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) asked if the Ohio State Coroners Association has taken a position on the measure.

Rep. Householder said he reached out to the group and believes they are either neutral or opposed to the legislation.

Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hits.) questioned the length of time the court process could take.

"What the citizens of Ohio expect from us is to get it right," he replied.

HB AGENCY REVIEWS (Faber, K.) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a **51** schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review. (REPORTED-AMENDED; 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Prior to the bill's passage out of committee, members voted along party lines to approve an amendment that would change the review process from once every four years to once every six years.

Wendy Patton, senior project director for Policy Matters Ohio, offered written opponent testimony, saying the legislation "proposes an expensive process that would divert time and resources from the delivery of important public services."

"No one would seriously suggest that we shut down our universities, prisons and nursing homes, lay off our state highway patrol officers and end all projects to keep up our roads and bridges," she wrote. "If legislators want to make sure these operations are accountable, there are numerous existing ways to do so."

Ms. Patton said lawmakers can hold agencies accountable through the budget process, through consolidation outside the budget process or through investigation by the auditor's office or the inspector general's office.

"The notion that we are going to shut down the state budget office, the Department of Natural Resources or other critical agencies is no laughing matter," she wrote. "HB51 proposes an expensive process that would divert time and resources from the delivery of important public services."

The committee narrowly reported the bill in an 8-6 vote, with Rep. Anielski and Rep. Steven Arndt (R-Port Clinton) voting against the measure.

SB POLICE CHIEF TRAINING (Hite, C.) To require the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission to develop **37** and conduct a chief of police training course for newly appointed village, city, and township chiefs of police. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The legislation is designed to "create an opportunity for local police chiefs to get the training that they need to be effective and dynamic leaders," sponsoring Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) said.

The 40 hours of semi-annual training the legislation would require would be offered through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.

The training would include diversity, historical perspectives and community-police relations.

Asked by Rep. Perales about the view of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police on the measure, Sen. Hite said they are in favor of the bill, which would only apply to new chiefs.

"They are fully behind this bill," he said.

Rep. Perales also inquired about police chiefs at private colleges and whether they would be required to undergo the training.

Sen. Hite said he is unsure.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony, see the committee's website under May 16.

Energy & Natural Resources

SB ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS (Hite, C.) To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection.

2 (CONTINUED; 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Ronald Mills told the panel the bill addresses a series of environmental issues across the state, but focused on sections he said will better protect Lake Erie.

He said there have been successes in the management of the lake that have improved its condition, but said the bill's sections that strengthen the Lake Erie Commission will be helpful.

"Thus empowered the Commission could play a pivotal role in developing local support for required initiatives to achieve improved water quality in Lake Erie," he said. "It could also serve a critical role in identifying and aligning objectives among various State Agencies with local communities, when needed."

Responding to Chair Rep. Al Landis (R-Dover), Mr. Ross said he had a long career working in various environmental control operations, and added that three areas - dredge material, point-source pollution and agricultural activity - are the keys to improving the lake's health.

Michael Dinneen, representing the Construction and Demolition Association of Ohio, testified in support.

He said the bill creates "appropriate regulation" of C&DD recycling and transfer stations, adding that it also directs the agency establish regulation for C&DD materials.

"Operated with proper oversight these facilities can be vital to the management C&DD materials, while creating jobs and investment in a community," he said.

Tim Williams, executive director of the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, also submitted written testimony, saying the group wants to make sure that water quality is protected without unneeded mandates. He said, however, there have been some concerns that Ohio EPA wanted to go beyond what the U.S. EPA rules by requiring asset management programs, rather than asset management plans.

"This change from 'plans' to 'programs' would require significant additional resources, including the hiring of technical advisors, engineers, accountants, capital asset experts and others," he said.

Mr. Williams said the association supports having plans on file. "We believe the current compromise with the Ohio EPA appears not to go beyond the U.S. EPA mandate and therefore exempts existing sub-metered water systems from asset management 'programs' when receiving all their water from already regulated public water systems," he said.

He added that if the bill is enacted, the organization will work with the OEPA on rules to make sure they follow the intent the agency has expressed.

Public Utilities

HBDISASTER WORK (Ryan, S.) To create the Disaster Relief Act to exempt out-of-state disaster businesses **133**and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) said his proposal will enable out-of-state communications companies, utilities, and other infrastructure companies to "rapidly deploy resources and out of state personnel" when responding to disasters.

"Out-of-state businesses and employees engaging in disaster work in Ohio during the temporary time frame would be exempt from filing any documents before engaging in the disaster work," Rep. Ryan said. "They would also not need to register, file or remit state or local taxes or be subject to any state licensing or registration requirements for a set period of time for both themselves and their equipment."

Employees and companies would still be subject to taxes and other requirements in their home state during this period, the sponsor said. He added that the bill also exempt those employers and their workers from Ohio's

workers' compensation and unemployment compensation.

"This expedites the often enormous and overwhelming task of cleaning up, restoring and repairing damaged buildings, equipment and property," Rep. Ryan said. "HB133 gives these businesses a greater ability to focus on quickly responding to the needs of the state and its citizens during an emergency."

HB NUCLEAR ENERGY (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the zero-emissions nuclear resource program.
178 (CONTINUED (See separate story); 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the [committee's website](#) under May 16.

Criminal Justice

HBCOURT JURISDICTIONS (Craig, H., Seitz, B.) To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts **125** over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court. **(CONTINUED-AMENDED (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)**

Sponsoring Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) amended the bill to forbid a township with a population of less than 50,000 from issuing civil citations on interstate highways.

The lawmaker said he learned of one township in northern Ohio that is doing so under the guise that the citations are not criminal.

"I find that to be a great exercise in sophistry," he said, before likening the practice to the "great red light speed camera scam that we continue to try to stamp out in Ohio."

HBHUMAN TRAFFICKING (Dever, J., Gavarone, T.) To permit a person who is found not guilty or is the **56** defendant in a dismissed case to apply for an expungement of the person's records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or finding of not guilty resulted from the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking, to permit a person convicted of certain prostitution-related offenses to apply for the expungement of any record of conviction of an offense, with certain exceptions, if the person's participation in the offense was a result of having been a victim of human trafficking, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. **(CONTINUED-AMENDED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)**

Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) successfully amended the bill with a change in the length of time a juvenile victim of human trafficking can be held in advance pending completion of a diversion program, which may not be extended for more than two, 90-day periods.

Celia Williamson, director of the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute, said in written testimony that the legislation will remove barriers to entering the workforce for victims of human trafficking.

"As you know, having a criminal record provides employers with reasons to deny employment," she wrote. "HB56 aims to help adult victims who have been rescued have a fair chance to obtain and work a livable wage job through legitimate means and to obtain economic stability. Former victims who can be employed in livable wage jobs are able to pay taxes, buy homes, and live free to pursue their American Dream."

Those barriers, she wrote, oftentimes force victims back into the arms of traffickers.

"Without viable employment, individuals face additional barriers such as the ability to obtain safe and affordable housing and benefits to meet basic needs," she wrote.

SBPROTECTION ORDERS (Bacon, K., Manning, G.) To provide that service of a protection order or consent **7** agreement upon a person is not necessary for the person to be convicted of the offense of violating a

protection order if the person had actual notice of the order or agreement and the person recklessly violated its terms. **(REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE; 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)**

Before the legislation was reported, a substitute version was adopted. It provides that for violations of a protection order or consent agreement it is not necessary to prove that the defendant was served the order or agreement if the prosecution proves the defendant was shown the order or the agreement or a copy of either, or a judge or magistrate or law enforcement officer informed the defendant about either.

Kathryn L. Cornelius-Blume, staff attorney for Southeastern Ohio Legal Services, said perpetrators of domestic violence regularly evade service of protection orders, especially in rural areas of the state.

"Due to smaller populations, rural areas often do not have as many deputies and/or police officers in urban areas," she said. "Given the sprawling topography and smaller-staff sheriff's departments, it is often difficult to find and serve perpetrators due to lack of resources alone."

Ms. Cornelius-Bloom also said that in smaller communities, news travels fast. That allows perpetrators to learn about and more easily dodge protection orders. She also said enforcement varies by counties.

"This lack of continuity from county to county creates an extra wrinkle of complexity for my clients," Ms. Cornelius-Bloom said. "If we believe that service will be an issue, clients must decide whether they want to flee to a county where personal service is not required or stay in their home county and risk not getting a fully enforceable final order."

Alexandria Ruden of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland told the story of Maria, a woman who recently obtained a civil protection order and informed her abuser of the order. However, he could not violate the terms of it at the time because he had not yet been served.

The abuser later broke into her home and beat her with a bat, Ms. Ruden said.

"Three times she sought help when she obtained the order, when she called the police and when she went to the prosecutor," Ms. Ruden said. "And three times, the system that was designed to protect, failed her."

Rep. Seitz informed Ms. Ruden that Maria informing her abuser of the order would still not be covered under the bill.

SB LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA (Eklund, J.) To allow disclosure of information from the law enforcement **33** automated data system (LEADS) to a defendant in a traffic or criminal case. **(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Sponsoring Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) said the legislation will help defense counsel properly represent their clients.

"In order to properly represent a defendant it is necessary for defense counsel to have all the information so that a defense or plea can be appropriately pursued," he said. "Otherwise ludicrous situations occur, such as a person who is charged with driving under suspension being told he is not allow to see the 'secret' records which purportedly establish he was under suspension."

Sen. Eklund also said it is not uncommon for records to contain errors due to transposed Social Security numbers, two people having similar names or a person providing law enforcement with a false name.

HBVOYEURISM (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a potential victim of voyeurism, to include **68** conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, **68** pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance, and to prohibit an owner, operator, administrator, or employee of a care facility from creating, sharing, reproducing, or publishing any image of a care facility resident without a proper purpose

and without prior written consent from the resident. **(CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)**

Three major changes were made to the bill through a substitute version adopted without objection. The first removes any provision pertaining to voyeurism.

Rep. Seitz called voyeurism "bad and creepy but not necessarily felonious."

The second change ratchets back the felony sentencing increase for all other offenses in the bill from second-degree felonies to third-degree felonies.

"I thought that was a little bit much. We have a prison system that is overflowing as we all know from our budget discussions," Rep. Seitz said.

The final change maintains the requirement for a mandatory prison sentence for the illegal use of a minor or impaired person in nudity-oriented material or performance if the offender also committed a specification of furtherance of human trafficking and the offense involved a minor.

HBAGGRAVATED MURDER (Greenspan, D.) To provide that purposely causing the death of a first responder or military member is aggravated murder and to require an offender to serve the prison term imposed for felonious assault on a peace officer, investigator, first responder, or military member consecutively to the prison term imposed for any related offense. **(REPORTED (No testimony) On House floor Wednesday-Pending committee report; 5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)**

Subscribers Note: For full testimony, see the [committee's website](#) under May 16.

Federalism & Interstate Relations

HB CONCEALED WEAPONS (Hood, R., Brinkman, T.) To allow a concealed handgun licensee to carry concealed all firearms other than dangerous ordnance or firearms prohibited by state or federal law; to repeal the requirement that a licensee stopped for a law enforcement purpose promptly inform an approaching officer if the licensee is carrying a firearm and provide for expungement of convictions based on a violation of the requirement; and to provide that a person age 21 or older and not prohibited by federal law from possessing or receiving a firearm does not need a concealed handgun license in order to carry a concealed firearm and is subject to the same laws regarding concealed firearm carrying as a licensee. **(CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

HB CONCEALED WEAPONS (Wiggam, S.) To eliminate the requirement that a concealed handgun licensee notify a law enforcement officer that the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun when stopped. **(CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)**

HRE-CHECK (Young, R.) To respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to amend the Federal Clean Air Act to eliminate the requirement to implement the E-Check Program and direct the Administrator of USEPA to begin new rule-making procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act to repeal and replace the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; to respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to pass legislation to achieve improvements in air quality more efficiently while allowing companies to innovate and help the economy grow; to urge the Administrator of USEPA to alleviate burdensome requirements of the E-Check Program and the Clean Air Act if Congress and the President fail to act; and to encourage OEPA to explore alternatives to E-Check in Ohio. **(REPORTED; 1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)**

Sponsoring Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy) said the legislation is identical to another measure (**HCR 8**), but he introduced another resolution that requires only approval in the House because of "vacillation" on the federal level and legislation related to the issue is at the committee level.

"I believe, it is imperative that a message from the Ohio House be sent to Congress ASAP as they are currently considering this legislation," he said. "HR806 does call for a delay of the implementation of the 2015 standards to 2025 and changes the 5-year review to 10 years."

However, he said the legislation does not require a close review of e-check, which could soon impact as many as 34 counties.

Painesville Township resident Augie Landsmann said in written testimony that e-check has been a burden on all of the counties in northern Ohio.

"All these counties have major interstates running through them every day with hundreds of thousands of vehicles from other countries and states, polluting if you will and they are not held responsible for their emissions, and we are, totally unfair and unacceptable," he wrote.

Bob Potts of Leroy Township told the panel that he has a vehicle that cannot pass e-check because of check engine light that remains on because of a power train issue.

"So not only is this not an emissions problem, I cannot use a perfectly good truck," he wrote.

Douglas Parr of Chardon Township called e-check "an onerous abuse of authority even if it were applied to the entire state rather than just selected counties in this state."

Perry Township resident Jason Farkas, Painesville residents Rev. John Bocchieri and Mary Ann Landsmann also provided written testimony in support of the measure.

**HCRMINER PROTECTION (Cera, J.) To urge the Congress of the United States to enact the Miners
8 Protection Act of 2017. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Sponsoring Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) urged the panel to move the legislation that would encourage the federal government to keep its promise made to miners to support their pensions and health care.

"They are not asking for a hand out - they have earned every dime," he said. "Passing this resolution shows that the Ohio Legislature supports these men and women. Not just at election time when it's politically convenient, but when they need our help the most after their bodies are broken and they struggle to breath from Black Lung disease."

Rep. Cera said the Miners Protection Act has the support of both U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park).

Asked by Rep. Paul Zeltwanger (R-Mason) how the fund got into such dire financial straits, Rep. Cera attributed it to bankruptcies in the industry and less reliance on coal.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony, see the committee's website under May 16.

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

**HB ROOFING CONTRACTORS (Patton, T.) To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license.
164 (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Sponsor Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) said the bill would include roofing contractors in the state's system for licensing construction contractors.

"The roofing profession has continued to become more and more technical," Rep. Patton said. "The ability to have qualified licensed contractors working on a crucial part of public and private commercial buildings is important. Contractors believe this is a route that will make Ohio safer."

People who wish to receive a roofing contracting license would need to satisfy similar requirements as other construction contractors, but those who are already commercial roofing contractors who meet certain criteria could be grandfathered into the licensing system.

Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown) wondered if the measure was agreed upon by both union and independent contractors. Rep. Patton assured her that both groups believe the bill to be beneficial because they are both opposed to the unaccountability of "storm chasers" who perform shoddy work.

"This bill is a simple way to license commercial roofing contractors in the same effective and efficient way that other specialty contractors are currently licensed while providing needed protections for public and private owners and helping to regulate the independent contractor abuse that is undermining Ohio's economy," Rep. Patton said.

Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) asked if this was another example of why we need local government to oversee construction issues. Rep. Patton responded, "We can never have enough oversight," adding that the bill would enable local government to pick the most qualified workers for their residents.

The distinction between the contractors and the roof installers was brought up by Rep. Steven Arndt (R-Port Clinton), who wondered if the installers themselves would need to be licensed. Rep. Patton explained that the contractor's license would cover both him and his installers, and would make them all accountable for their work.

HBBUILDING INSPECTIONS (Roegner, K.) To permit a general contractor or owner of specified buildings **128**to enter into a contract with a third-party private inspector or a certified building department for building inspection and to make other changes relating to building inspections. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Bryan Williams, director of government affairs for Associated Builders and Contractors, said the bill would allow permissive third party, fully licensed inspections paid for by the general contractor or project owner in lieu of the public building department.

The practice already happens on a regular basis in Ohio, he said.

"Why is this necessary? Because many building departments stymie the timely construction of projects in their jurisdiction simply because they are unable or unwilling to hire more inspectors," he said. "Additionally, some departments are not willing to admit that their departments lack the professional expertise to inspect a unique and complicated aspect of a specific project."

Mr. Williams said it won't decrease the qualifications for individuals who conduct inspections, and that it wouldn't let contractors "shop" for friendly inspectors. The state would create a list of licensed people and the inspector would be assigned from that list.

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) asked if it would affect the enforcement of local governments' building codes.

"The key is, whatever that local building department approved as plans, that is what is supposed to be built," Mr. Williams said.

Rep. Lepore-Hagan asked if the bill would affect local control over building inspections.

"The critics of the bill will say that because it does breach the monopoly local departments have on inspections," Mr. Williams said. "Most contractors would exercise this authority that they'd have only when they'd need to do so, because otherwise they'd have to pay twice."

Rep. Arndt asked if limiting the period to an inspection to 24 hours is best, or if it would be better to require that appointments could be made four days in advance for a specific 24 hour period.

"That is a reasonable concern and certainly would be a reasonable modification," Mr. Williams said.

HB CHILD CARE CENTERS (Retherford, W.) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers.
77 (CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Education & Career Readiness

HB COMPUTER SCIENCE (Carfagna, R., Duffey, M.) With regard to academic content standards and **170** curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology grant program for the 2018-2019 school year; and to make an appropriation. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Chelsey Cook, principal of John Marshall IT School in Cleveland, said her school is the first in the state to focus on computer science. Students are offered three pathways, including software development, health IT and cyber security and networking. Each pathway is sponsored by a university.

"We believe computer science is an equity issue," she said. "We believe all students should have access to computer science in the state of Ohio."

Nigamanth Sridhar, a professor of computer science at Cleveland State University, said computer science should be taught in every school in the state and that every student should have access to it.

"Computer science is increasingly becoming a necessary knowledge skill for future high school graduates," he said. "Even among students who choose not to enter a college program majoring in computer science or taking a job in computing, there is still a necessity of having a basic understanding of the digital world that we live in."

Jon Phillips, managing director of vertical practice for Dell EMC, said there is rising demand for workers with a computer science background. He said teaching computer science at an early age can help more children learn the process and a different way of thinking.

He recommended some best practices, such as developing a state standard for K-12 computer science education, teaching essential literacy skills and math concepts behind computer science skills, creating pathways to careers, preparing good teachers and educating communities about careers.

Roger Archbold, senior state alliance manager for Microsoft, said STEM career fields are most in demand, and the bill would help move the state toward better preparing students for those careers.

"I would encourage and recommend that this committee goes above and beyond just computer science by offering industry recognized certifications as part of this legislation," he said.

Stephanie Hoeppner, representing the Computer Science Teachers Association, said the bill will elevate the level of computer science education in Ohio. Computer science goes beyond programming and data analysis, she said.

"It is a way that we look of just how to solve problems," she said. "Gone are the days of just reading, writing and arithmetic."

Rep. Kyle Koehler (R-Springfield) asked if the appropriation of \$2.5 million was needed to improve the teaching of computer science.

"I do not believe that the funding for HB170 should be for equipment," Ms. Hoeppner said, indicating that support for professional development for teachers was more important. "The equipment is not the pivotal feature for whether or not someone can learn computer science."

Kelli Shrewsberry, executive director of the Teaching and Learning Collaborative in Worthington, praised the bill's support for expanded professional development programs in computer science.

"Finding ways to effectively integrate computer science and computational thinking into a content area for elementary grades is an important effort in ensuring that computer science is embedded in Ohio's elementary classrooms as well as middle and high school," she said."

HB SCHOOL CHOICE (Koehler, K.) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and **200** Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sponsor Rep. Kyle Koehler (R-Springfield) said the bill, a companion of legislation in the Senate (**SB 85**), would create an income-based scholarship program to offset the cost of attending chartered non-public schools.

The bill would create a new scholarship program for families with incomes below 400% of the poverty level.

"By expanding the educational opportunities through this new scholarship for students from low income families, we will ensure that no child in Ohio is stuck in a school that does not effectively prepare them for the future due to inability to pay," he said.

Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) asked if the plan would help those struggling public schools.

"I believe we have a responsibility to help them have a choice to move away from a school district that is not effectively educating their children," Rep. Koehler said.

Rep. Patterson said the bill could cause more problems for public schools by taking away funding.

Rep. Koehler said it's a matter of choice for the families.

"There are thousands of children who are in our public school system who choose to stay there," he said. "I believe what we're doing is providing choice."

HB SCHOOL TESTING (Thompson, A.) With to regard to state achievement assessments, statewide **176** academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sponsor Rep. Andy Thompson (R-Marietta) said the bill changes standards, reduces the number of exams, allows school districts to choose the standards they want to work with.

"We know that greatest factor in each student's success is the quality of that student's teachers," he said. "Not every teacher is excellent, but our current approach limits severely teachers' ability to do their best, because the demands of testing and the linkage of test results to teachers' evaluations create a climate that is at best stressful, and at worst intolerable."

Other changes in the bill include making the third grade reading guarantee test a permissive diagnostic tool, eliminating the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, fourth and sixth grade social studies assessments and the fall administration of the third-grade English Language Arts Assessment, among others.

"House Bill 176 is not a panacea for whatever ails local districts, but it is a significant step in the right direction, to an educational system that is more bottom up and less top down, that is more responsive to local needs and concerns, and one that empowers those that are closest to the people they represent," he said.

Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) asked if the bill would lead to cost savings at the local level.

Rep. Thompson said there would be "substantial savings" by districts not having to have as much staff to handle testing and curriculum issues with the Common Core standards.

"I think the purpose of education is to educate kids, not merely to prepare them for some job that they're going to do," Rep. Thompson said.

Rep. Patterson suggested the Joint Education Oversight Committee could be used as a way to evaluate some of the proposals.

Finance


The panel reviewed and reported the Bureau of Workers' Compensation budget (HB27) following its report from the Insurance Committee (*see separate story*) per a requirement that it hear all appropriation bills.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

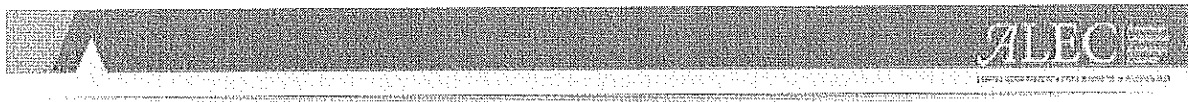
Sarah, here's what you need to know on net neutrality

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Thu, May 18, 2017 at 12:01 PM

To view this email as a web page, go here.



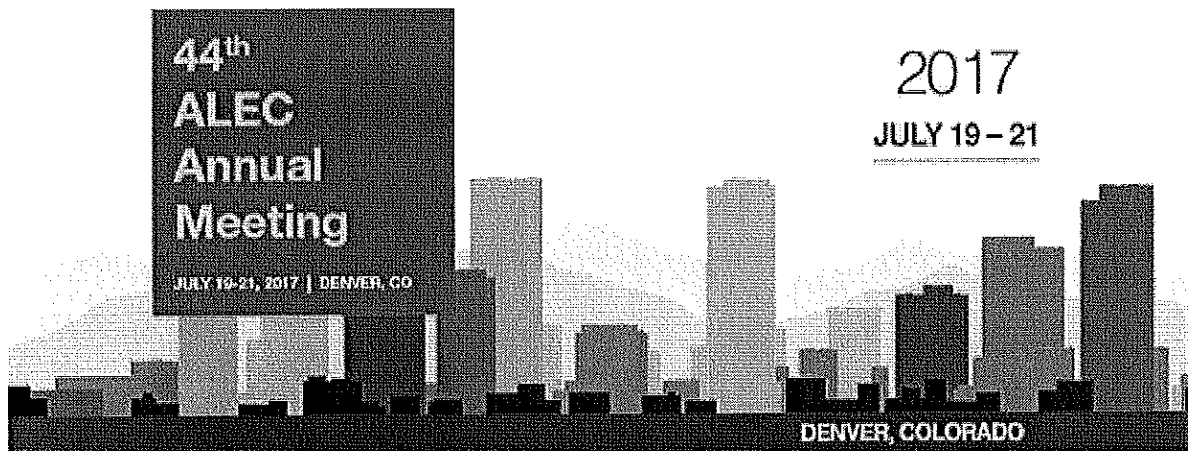
Digital Exchange - May 18, 2017



Facebook



Twitter



Sarah, have you registered for the ALEC Annual Meeting yet? Don't wait! We are already at record breaking numbers for Public Sector registrations. Don't miss out on the opportunity to network and engage with legislators from across the country. Early bird rates end Tuesday, June 6.

See you in Denver!

[Click Here to Register](#)

NEW: ALEC Video

Net Neutrality 101

Jonathon Hauenschield | FCC | Net Neutrality



In light of the Federal Communications Commission's Restoring Internet Freedom proposed rule going to a vote today, Task force Director, Jonathon Hauenschield breaks down what the net neutrality debate is really about.



Share



Tweet



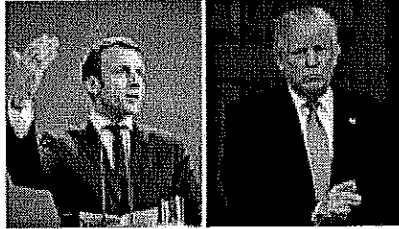
Forward

[Watch the Full Video](#)

Expert Opinion

Macron Inspires France to Rise

Karla Jones | *The Hill* | International Relations


[Read the Full Article](#)

"Both Trump and Macron never held public office before their inaugurations spending their working lives in the private sector. However, both fashioned successful movements pledging to upend the political dysfunction in their respective countries. Macron established a new party En Marché! (Onward!), and Trump refashioned the Republican Party to advance his agenda."Read more.


[Share](#)

[Tweet](#)

[Forward](#)

Featured ALEC Member

ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Senator Kris Langer | SD-25


[Read the Full Bio](#)

Senator Kris Langer is a native South Dakotan and was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She received her B.S. from South Dakota State University. Outside of her work in the legislature, Sen. Langer works as a Broker Associate at Keller Williams Realty. Click here for the full bio.


[Share](#)

[Tweet](#)

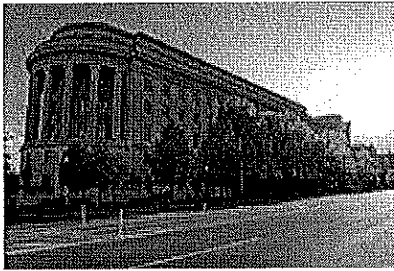
[Forward](#)

Expert Insight

FTC Takes on Economic Liberty with Introduction of New Task Force

Tom McLaughlin | Trade

On March 16, 2017, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) concurrently rolled out a task force and accompanying resource webpage focusing on economic liberty, with a concentration on occupational licensing reform to advocate for public education and change on this contentious topic.


[Read the Full Article](#)


Share



Tweet

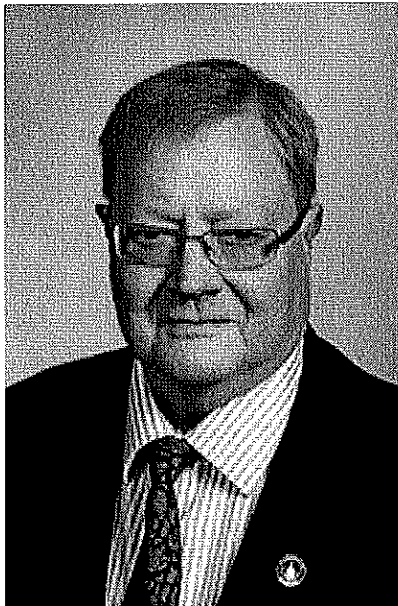


Forward

ALEC Remembers

ALEC Remembers Representative Forristall

Representative Greg Forristall - IO-22 - February 15, 1950 – May 10, 2017



"We at ALEC are saddened by the news of Representative Forristall's passing as he was such an important and consistent presence at our meetings and within our organization," said Lisa B. Nelson, CEO of ALEC. "We extend our deepest condolences to his family during this difficult time."



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Read the Full Statement](#)

Stay Updated on All Things Annual Meeting

44th ALEC Annual Meeting

[Register](#) - [Registration Fees](#) - [Agenda](#) - [Travel](#) - [Speakers](#) - [For Kids](#)

Do you have an issue you would like to see discussed at our Annual Meeting? Let us know! Contact **Jeff Lambert** at jlambert@alec.org to find out more about hosting a workshop at our Annual Meeting in Denver.

JUST ANNOUNCED: Dr. William Bennett has been officially added to our already exciting line up of speakers. [Click here to see the full list.](#)

Bring your Legislative Staff to Denver!

The Legislative Staff Fellowship provides participants the tools necessary to be successful in their careers, learn about free market principles and build lasting relationships with peers from around the country.

The fellowship includes: Hotel costs, meals, registration fees and up to \$500 in travel reimbursements.

7/25/2018

Gmail - Sarah, here's what you need to know on net neutrality

Contact Lacey White to find out more.
lwhite@alec.org

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

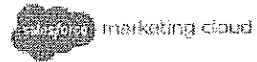


YouTube

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

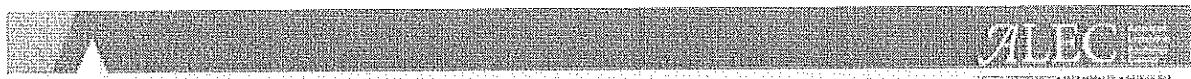
Sarah, Here's the latest on Campus and Commercial Free Speech

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Tue, May 23, 2017 at 12:01 PM

To view this email as a web page, go here.



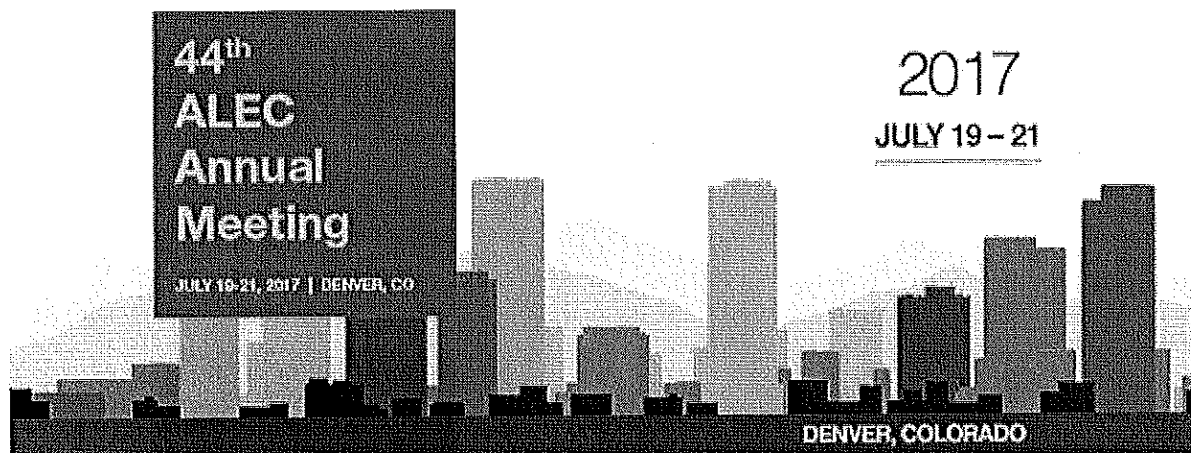
Center to Protect Free Speech - May, 23 2017



Facebook



Twitter


[Click Here to Register Now](#)

ALEC Task Force Meeting Update

2017 Spring Task Force Wrap-Up

Charlotte, North Carolina - 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit

- Donor privacy and campus speech were top topics of discussion.
- Amended "Resolution in Support of Nonprofit Donor Privacy" passed the Civil Justice Task Force and is now pending board approval.
- Campus model policy "Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act" passed the Education and Workforce Development Task Force and is now pending board approval.
- The Center attended both the Education Task Force and Civil Justice Task Force and moderated a panel on campus speech.
- A big thank you to Representative Kim Coleman, Alliance Defending Freedom, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education and Young Americans for Liberty for participating in the campus speech panel!

In the News

Emmett Talks Campus Free Speech in the Michigan Senate

Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee | Campus Free Speech



[Watch the Full Speech](#)

Shelby Emmett, Director of the ALEC Center to Protect Free Speech returned to her home state of Michigan and joined Stanley Kurtz in schooling the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee [starts at 54:10] on the importance of free speech to students.

Contributor for Mlive, Brian McVicar quotes Emmett's response to Sen. Steve Bieda, D-Warren's statement concerning the lack of need for campus free speech laws, "I think it's horrific that a young person has to take time out of their day to go sue somebody because their fundamental rights were violated".



Share



Tweet



Forward

What We're Doing in the States

Free Speech Issue Briefings in the States

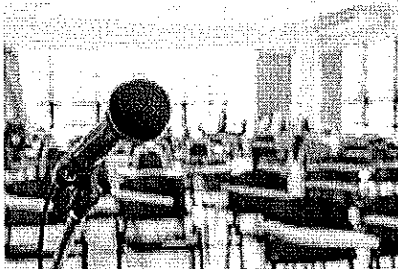
South Carolina | Michigan | Utah | [Contact Daniel Turner for More Info](#)

- We are excited to launch a series of free speech issue briefings for state legislators at state capitols across the United States! These briefings cover the issues of campus speech, donor privacy and commercial speech.
- So far, we have held briefings in South Carolina, Michigan and Utah. Thank you Sen. Colbeck, Rep. Riley, Rep. Runestad, Mackinac Center, Alliance Defending Freedom and Young Americans for Liberty for helping make the Michigan briefing a success! Thank you ALEC's Center for State Fiscal Reform, Rep. Coleman, Rep. Thurston and Matt Miller of the Goldwater Institute for your help and participation in the Utah briefing!
- We have already lined up issue briefings in additional states. **If you are interested in having an issue briefing in your state on free speech, please contact us at dturner@alec.org.**

ALEC Working Group Update

Working with the Center to Protect Free Speech

[Click Here to Join](#) | Free Speech Working Group



[Click Here to Join](#)

Thank you to all of our members for the overwhelming interest in joining the Free Speech working group! Keep an eye out for the first free speech working group email, closer to Annual Meeting.

If you are interested in joining, please contact us. We welcome the involvement of all who are interested in fighting to protect the freedom of speech.



Share



Tweet



Forward

Expert Insight

Why You Need Free Speech to Find the Best Sandwich or Hotel

The Federalist | Sam Peak | Commercial Free Speech


[Read the Full Article](#)

High five to Sam Peak, who was the Center's first intern this spring! He recently finished his internship with us and went on author an excellent article on commercial speech that was published in The Federalist! In the piece, Sam clearly lays out why commercial speech is essential in layman's terms (no easy feat, incidentally). Great work, Sam!

To learn about commercial speech from a legal perspective, check out the Washington Legal Foundation's Legal Opinion Letters on Commercial Speech.



Share



Tweet

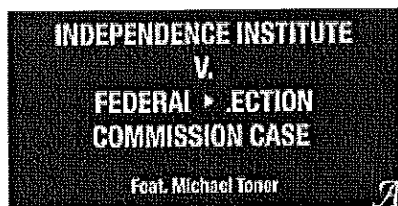


Forward

Expert Explanation

Independence Institute Explained

Independence Institute v. Federal Election Commission Case | Feat. Michael Toner


[Watch the Full Video](#)

Michael Toner explains the importance of the Independence Institute case. This video was also shown during the Civil Justice Task Force's luncheon on donor privacy at STFS.



Share



Tweet



Forward

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

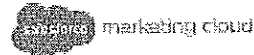


YouTube

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

House & Senate Floor Reports

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>

Tue, May 23, 2017 at 3:20 PM

Reply-To: gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com

To: Standard_Subscriber_misc_html@gongwer-oh.com

[View in a browser](#)[News](#) [Bill Tracking](#) [Legislation](#)

HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED

HB 234**REPRODUCTIVE CARE (Howse, S., Lepore-Hagan, M.)**

To criminalize impeding access to reproductive health care and to create a cause of action for harassment or intimidation of one or more employees of a health care facility.

HB 235**EDUCATION PLAN (Gavarone, T.)**

Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

HB 236**ELEVATOR LAW (Patton, T., Cupp, R.)**

To enact the Model Elevator Law.

HB 237**ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D.)**

To require a political subdivision with territory in more than one county that places an issue on the ballot to notify the board of elections of every county in which the political subdivision has territory, to require the Secretary of State to establish a database to facilitate communication

between the boards of elections and the Secretary concerning local elections, and to make an appropriation.

HB 238

VETERANS WAIVER (Retherford, W., Brenner, A.)

To establish the Veterans Fee Waiver Program.

HB 239

SECURITY RESOURCES (Smith, R., Carfagna, R.)

To allow electric distribution utilities to recover costs for a national security generation resource.

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 9

SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Bacon, K.)

To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes.

HB 8

RECORDS EXEMPTION (Hambley, S., Rezabek, J.)

To exempt from the Public Records Law certain information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident.

HR 85

E-CHECK (Young, R.)

To respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to amend the Federal Clean Air Act to eliminate the requirement to implement the E-Check Program and direct the Administrator of USEPA to begin new rule-making procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act to repeal and replace the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; to respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to pass legislation to achieve improvements in air quality more efficiently while allowing companies to innovate and help the economy grow; to urge the Administrator of USEPA to alleviate burdensome requirements of the E-Check Program and the Clean Air Act if Congress and the President fail to act; and to

encourage OEPA to explore alternatives to E-Check in Ohio.

REFERRED

Civil Justice

HB 223

STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS (Dever, J.)
Relative to transfers of structured settlement payment rights.

Criminal Justice

SB 4

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Kunze, S., Oelslager, S.)
To allow a person who is found not guilty of an offense or who is the defendant named in a dismissed criminal charge to apply for a court order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the charge or not guilty finding was the result of the applicant having been a human trafficking victim, to allow a person convicted of certain prostitution-related offenses to apply for the expungement of the conviction record of any offense, other than a specified disqualifying offense, the person's participation in which was a result of having been a human trafficking victim, and to allow intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution.

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

HB 230

FLAG DISPLAY (Gonzales, A., Ginter, T.)
To prohibit manufactured home park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of the thin blue line flag.

Education & Career Readiness

SB 8

SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY & SAFETY (Gardner, R., Terhar, L.)
To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and

making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.

HB 220

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Leland, D.)
With regard to the use of funds by community schools and nonpublic schools.

HB 224

SCHOOL FOODS (Ingram, C.)
To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging.

Energy & Natural Resources

HB 225

OIL GAS WELLS (Thompson, A.)
To allow a landowner to report an idle and orphaned well or abandoned well, to require the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management to inspect and classify such a well, to require the Chief to begin plugging a well classified as distressed-high priority within a specified time period, and to authorize an income tax deduction for reimbursements paid by the state to a landowner for costs incurred to plug an idle or orphaned well.

Federalism & Interstate Relations

HB 228

GUN LAWS (Johnson, T., LaTourette, S.)
To assign to the prosecution the burden of disproving a self-defense or related claim, to expand the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law, and to modify the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law regarding a licensee's duty to keep the licensee's hands in plain sight, the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and the posting of warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises.

HB 233

FIREARMS (Becker, J.)
To enact the "Decriminalization Effort For Ending Notorious Deaths (DEFEND)" to provide

an opportunity for a concealed handgun licensee or qualified military member to avoid guilt for carrying a concealed handgun into a prohibited place if the person leaves upon request, and to penalize as disorderly conduct failing to leave upon request or returning with a firearm.

Finance

HB 221

WATER SEWER PROJECTS (Holmes, G.)
To expressly include, as eligible projects under the State Capital Improvements Program administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission, water and sewer laterals located on private property.

Government Accountability & Oversight

HB 218

PARK DISTRICTS (Seitz, B.)
To expand a probate court's powers and duties with regard to a park district.

HB 222

VOTER ID (Greenspan, D.)
To specify that a concealed handgun license qualifies as photo identification for voting purposes.

Health

HB 231

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Ginter, T., Sprague, R.)
To require pharmacists to offer to dispense controlled substances in lockable or tamper-evident containers.

Higher Education & Workforce Development

HB 217

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS (Brenner, A.)
To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission.

State & Local Government

HB 229

DAY DESIGNATION (Romanchuk, M., Wiggam, S.)

To designate February 3 as "Charles Follis Day."

Transportation & Public Safety

HB 219

SPEED LIMITS (Boccieri, J.)

To specify that a speed limit becomes effective at a reasonable distance from the appropriate sign giving notice of the speed limit.

HB 227

LICENSE PLATE (LaTourette, S.)

To create the "Kenston Local Schools" license plate.

Ways & Means

HB 232

TAX DEDUCTION (Rogers, J., Rezabek, J.)

To authorize, for six years, a personal income tax deduction for attorneys and pass-through entity law firms based on the number of hours the attorney performed pro bono legal work for indigent clients through a legal aid society and the expenses associated with that work.

SENATE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED

SB 155

SECURITY RESOURCES (Terhar, L., Peterson, B.)

To allow electric distribution utilities to recover costs for a national security generation resource.

SB 156

CALL CENTERS (Schiavoni, J., Yuko, K.)

To enact the Consumer Protection Call Center Act of 2017 to require the Department of Job and Family Services to compile a list of all employers that relocate a call center to a foreign country and to disqualify employers on that list from state grants, loans, and other benefits.

7/23/2018

Gmail - House & Senate Floor Reports

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

ANNOUNCEMENTS: HHS Task Force at ALEC Annual Meeting

1 message

Mia Heck <mheck@alec.org>
To: Mia Heck <mheck@alec.org>

Wed, May 24, 2017 at 4:09 PM

Dear Health and Human Services (HHS) Task Force Member:

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to sharing best practices in public policies that promote limited government, free-markets and federalism. Without you we wouldn't have the exciting opportunities for reform that are before us.

This email is to ensure you have all of the information you need to register to attend the ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver July 19 – 21, as well as announce a recent change to the schedule. **Also, are you aware ALEC reimburses state legislators for things like travel, hotel, and registration expenses?** Speak with your State Chair about getting reimbursed after the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Spencer Chretien at schretien@alec.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *****The HHS Task Force Meeting has moved from Friday, to Thursday July 20 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.*****
- The deadline to submit Model Policy to be considered by the Task Force is close of business, **Monday June 5**. If you have any questions about Model Policy submissions please don't hesitate to contact me at mheck@alec.org or by phone at (571) 482-5022.
- The deadline for Early Bird registration is **Tuesday June 6, 2017**. Options to register either online or by phone are below, register TODAY!

At the next meeting we will discuss important reforms related to the Obamacare repeal and replace bill, as well as best practices in reforms to the Medicaid program. To vote on model policy and engage in discussions on limited government, free-markets and federalism, you may register for the ALEC Annual Meeting online by clicking on this link: <https://www.alec.org/meeting/2017-annual-meeting-denver-co/>

No time to register online? Let us help in 3 easy steps:

1. Have your credit card on hand.
2. Call (571) 482-5155 (No answer? We're probably helping someone on the other line. Leave a message and we will call you back.)
3. Answer a few questions.

And finally, for those who are interested in or requested the PowerPoint presentation on Per Capita Allotment and Block Grants in the American Health Care Act that Doug Badger delivered at the meeting in Charlotte, they are attached.

Let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you in Denver!

Mia

Mia Heck, MBA

Director, Health and Human Services Task Force

2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

D 571.482.5022

M 210.284.0388



Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado

2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee

2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan

The American Legislative Exchange Council is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is the largest nonpartisan, voluntary membership organization of state legislators in the United States dedicated to the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. The Council is governed by state legislators who comprise the National Board of Legislators and is advised by the Private Enterprise Advisory Council, a group of private, foundation and think tank members.

 **Badger PowerPoint.pdf**
278K



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

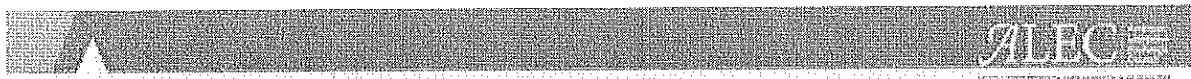
Sarah, Imagine How Much More We Could Accomplish

1 message

Representative Wes Retherford <avarner@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Thu, May 25, 2017 at 10:16 AM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).



Dear Representative LaTourette,

Did you hear about the **ALEC Constituent Relationship Management tool** that will make us more successful in our districts?

This system is really changing the way we interact with our constituents – and it's **free** to ALEC members. There's no more powerful tool to learn about the attitudes and desires of our communities.

Imagine how much more we could accomplish if we all use this together? This is powerful information we can use to plan priorities and build strategies.

And it's free as a benefit of membership.

You can get started today by signing up here: www.gravitycrm.org.

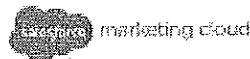
Sincerely,

Representative Wes Retherford
State Chair, OH

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



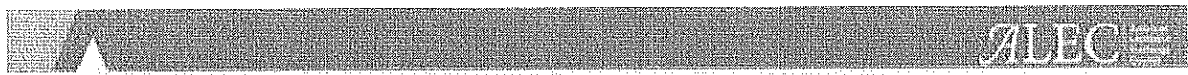
Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Sarah, here's what's going on in the states

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

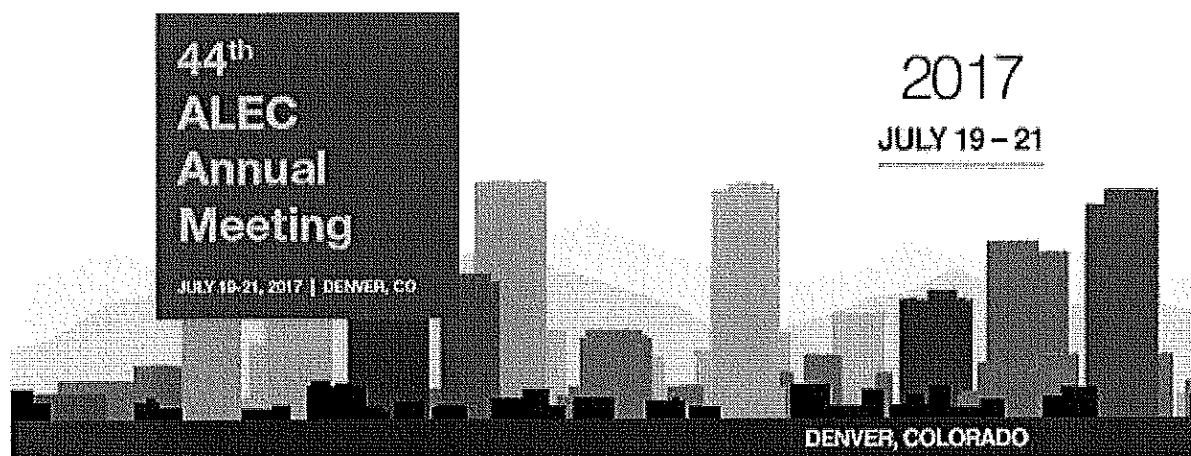
Thu, May 25, 2017 at 12:01 PM

[To view this email as a web page, go here.](#)**Digital Exchange - May 25, 2017**

Facebook



Twitter

[Click Here to Register Now](#)**Expert Insight****What's the Matter with Kansas Republicans?**

The Weekly Standard | Stephen Moore | Tax Reform

"...the media and the teachers' unions and, alas, at least half the Republicans in Topeka now think the financial salvation for Kansas is to make the state look more like Connecticut and Illinois. If they have their way, that's exactly where the state is headed."...Read more.



Share



Tweet



Forward


[Read the Full Article](#)

In the News

Emmett Talks Campus Free Speech in the Michigan Senate

Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee | Campus Free Speech


[Watch the Full Speech](#)

Shelby Emmett, Director of the ALEC Center to Protect Free Speech returned to her home state of Michigan and joined Stanley Kurtz in schooling the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee [starts at 54:10] on the importance of free speech to students.

Contributor for Mlive, Brian McVicar quotes Emmett's response to Sen. Steve Bieda, D-Warren's statement concerning the lack of need for campus free speech laws, "I think it's horrific that a young person has to take time out of their day to go sue somebody because their fundamental rights were violated".


[Share](#)

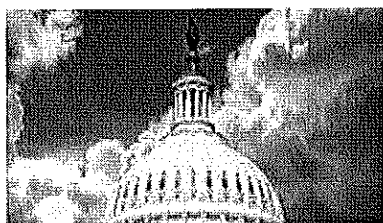
[Tweet](#)

[Forward](#)

Tax Reform Update

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means Written Testimony

Jonathan Williams | United States House of Representatives | Tax Reform


[Read the Full Testimony](#)

ALEC was approached to submit testimony for the House Committee on Ways and Means. Click here to read my written testimony. The primary focus is on our lessons learned from tax reform efforts in the states, where nearly 30 states have significantly reduced taxes in the past four years alone.

In addition to providing the widely respected ALEC Principles of Taxation, I discussed a tale of two states with radically different tax reform outcomes: North Carolina and Kansas. They are both important case studies as lawmakers consider federal reform.


[Share](#)

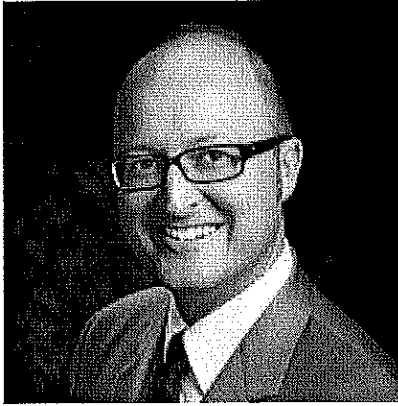
[Tweet](#)

[Forward](#)

Featured ALEC Member

ALEC - FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Matthew Harper | CA-74



Matthew Harper has represented California's 74th Assembly District since 2014. He began his career in public service in 1998 when he was elected to the Huntington Beach Union High School District Board of Trustees. Click here for the full bio.



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



YouTube

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Sarah, have you registered for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting Yet?

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Tue, May 30, 2017 at 12:01 PM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

44th ALEC Annual Meeting
JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

Join us for all the exciting events happening in Denver!

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
June 6, 2017

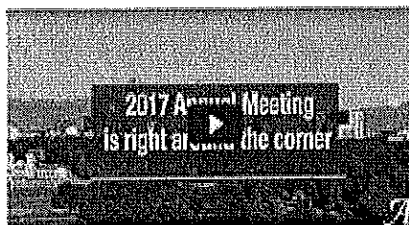
HOUSING CUT-OFF:
June 26, 2017

>> REGISTER NOW AT:
www.alec.org/meetings/

REGISTER NOW for ALEC Annual Meeting

[Click Here to Register Now](#)**ALEC Events Update****44th Annual Meeting Early Bird Rates End Soon!**

Meeting Summary | Agenda | Travel | Speakers | Attractions



It's not too late to join us for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver. You still have time to save on your registration costs with the early bird rate!

Important Upcoming Dates

Early bird rate ends on June 6.

Housing block ends on June 26.

[Register Today](#)

Share



Tweet



Forward

NEW:ALEC Video

Education Policy 101: Education Savings Accounts (ESA)

Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Policy Explained | A Sarah Wood Production



Education and Workforce Development Taskforce Director Inez Feltcher Stepman breaks down what educational savings accounts (ESA) are. Click here to learn more.



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Watch the Full Video](#)

Expert Opinion

"Choice Counts": Education Director Documents Success of Charter Schools, Education Savings Accounts

Buck Sexton | Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Savings Accounts



"There's an enormous amount of choice in Arizona, and we're seeing the results," Stepman continued. "Arizona kids, who are much poorer and more Hispanic than the Northeast, Massachusetts, Connecticut population, we're seeing that population of Arizona kids, when given choice, is performing close to the level of the privileged population near Harvard or Yale. Choice is making a huge difference." ...Read more.



Share



Tweet



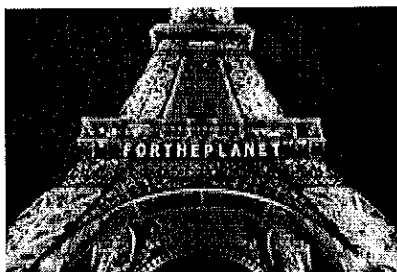
Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

Expert Insight

The Paris Climate Agreement is a Bad Deal for America

Kenneth Stein | Task Force Director, Energy, Environment and Agriculture



ALEC has long opposed the government picking winners and losers pointing to the fact that while energy consumption has continued to grow, air quality has also improved. Binding, multilateral treaties that restrict the free market and stifle American innovation harm not only today's energy generators, but also those of the future. Click here to find out more.



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

7/25/2018

Gmail - Sarah, have you registered for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting Yet?

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

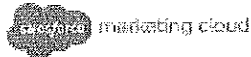


YouTube

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



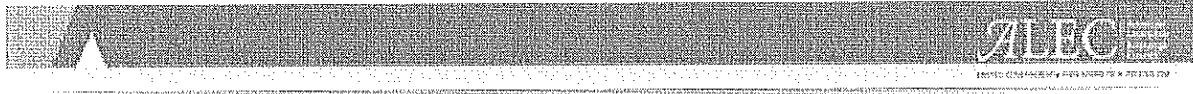
Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

The challenges that meet the free market agenda are many, but we are also many.

1 message

Lisa B. Nelson <lisanelson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Wed, May 31, 2017 at 2:31 PM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

Dear Members,

As the rhythms of the new administration start to take shape and new battle lines are drawn, I write to you about two very different but connected topics: Understanding Trump and how to get the best out of the administration, as well as the assault on free speech and the politics of disruption. Both help set the stage for the July Annual Meeting in Denver where there will be a strong focus on both federalism and free speech.

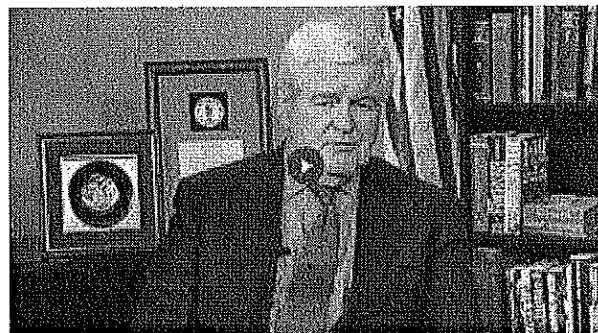
The Trump agenda has been met with strong—if not reflexive—opposition. On a daily basis, it seems the intensity has been turned up on absolutely everything. Free expression is under attack on college campuses; news media is being silenced by pressure campaigns targeting advertisers and legislators. For this reason, ALEC launched a new center, The Center to Protect Free Speech, in January. The purpose of the Center is to educate legislators and concerned citizens regarding the importance of free speech and promoting policies that ensure the ability for all to speak freely—even dissenters.

The vitriol is a lot to process. It is hard to understand, but as a part of the ALEC family, you know it's nothing new. What you see today is chapter and verse from the anti-ALEC playbook of old. **It is the same people and organizations implementing exactly the same tactics on new targets.** Listen for instance to this April 20 NPR broadcast with Color of Change Executive Director Rashad Robinson where he takes credit for the ouster of Bill O'Reilly—not on the grounds of the accusations against him, but because of Robinson's effective campaign execution.

I am pleased the Trump agenda thus far has been one focused on deregulation and federalism. When the president talks about cutting the budget or eliminating federal programs, it means his proposals give way for the states to lead and serve their people.

Please take a moment to view a message to ALEC members from author, Speaker Newt Gingrich:

Newt Gingrich's new book, *Understanding Trump*, (available on June 13) helps people understand and decode the president. In the book, Newt shares that interpretations offered through the elitist lens pervasive in the media miss the intention and import of Trump proposals. Unlike any previous president, however, Trump works around the media and simply takes his message directly to the American people. Whether or not one agrees with the President's agenda, it is in all of our interest to better gain a better understanding of President Trump.



I hope you will order the book and engage in the process. Like President Trump we all have to stay focused on advancing our ideals of limited government, free markets and federalism.

Over the Memorial Day weekend I had the pleasure of paying a visit to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and was reminded of the thinking, 45 years ago when ALEC was founded, that discourse between

7/25/2018

Gmail - The challenges that meet the free market agenda are many, but we are also many.

American businesses and policymakers was a positive force for good. This thinking helped to foster a dialogue of how government can provide the necessary guiderails but stay out of the way to help businesses flourish.

If you have concerns about the current anti-corporate, anti-conservative protest landscape, please think of ALEC as a resource. ALEC weathered the storm and emerged stronger than before. We can provide you with the playbook, what to expect and how to navigate the challenges.

The challenges that meet the free market agenda are many, but we are also many. Their goal is to divide us—to diminish the strength of our network and keep us from working together. We can't let that happen. If we do, the result—as we've seen before—is an over-regulated, economically depressed America that takes advantage of taxpayers and delivers minimal gain. And, that is not the America Reagan often preached about.

We at ALEC have made a priority of educating companies and executives about intimidation tactics. Please look to ALEC as a resource and reach out to Chief Operating Officer Bill Meierling about how we can help you.

I hope to see you in Denver July 19-21 for our annual meeting. See you then!

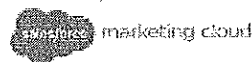
Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson
Chief Executive Officer
American Legislative Exchange Council

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson Invites You to Join us in Denver, July 19!

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>

To: latoursm@gmail.com

Thu, Jun 1, 2017 at 12:01 PM

To view this email as a web page, go here.

Digital Exchange - June 1, 2017



Facebook



Twitter

44th ALEC Annual Meeting
JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

JULY 19-21

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
June 6, 2017

HOUSING CUT-OFF:
June 26, 2017

>> REGISTER NOW AT:
www.alec.org/meetings/

Join us for all the exciting events happening in Denver!

REGISTER NOW for ALEC Annual Meeting

[Click Here to Register Now](#)**ALEC Events Update****ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson Invites You to Denver**

44th ALEC Annual Meeting | Register Today | A Sarah Wood Production

Hurry and **register** for the ALEC Annual Meeting before the early bird deadline ends **June 6th!**


[Watch the Full Promo](#)

In case you missed it, Governor Matt Bevin (KY), the Honorable Jim DeMint, Mr. Steve Forbes and more have been confirmed to speak in Denver. Stay tuned for Annual Meeting agenda updates and more speaker announcements coming soon!



Share



Tweet



Forward

Expert Insight

Congress Seeks to Expand Eligibility for Expungements for Nonviolent, First-Time Offenders

Ronald L. Lampard | Sean Smith | Criminal Justice Reform


[Read the Full Article](#)

Congress is considering expanding the eligibility for an expungement for first-time, nonviolent drug offenders. **Click here** to see how *The Renew Act* could create a path to success for first time offenders without compromising the government's interests in public safety.



Share



Tweet



Forward

VIDEO: Education Policy 101

What are Educational Savings Accounts (ESA)?

Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Policy | A Sarah Wood Production


[Watch the Full Video](#)

Education and Workforce Development Task Force Director Inez Feltcher Stepman breaks down what educational savings accounts (ESA) are. **Click here** for the full video.



Share



Tweet



Forward

Featured ALEC Member

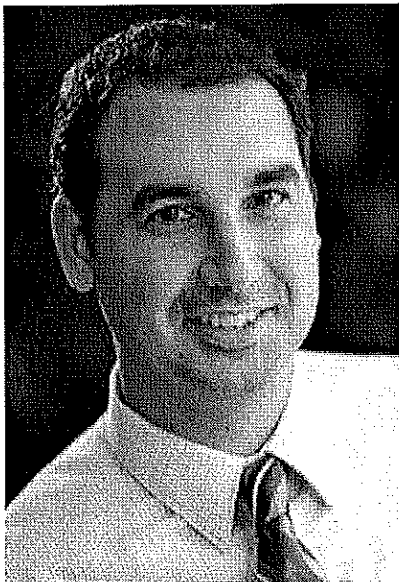
ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Representative Mike La Rosa | FL-42

Representative Mike La Rosa is a native Floridian and was born in Miami, Florida. He received his B.A. in Interpersonal Communications from the University of Central Florida. Outside of his work in the legislature, Rep. La Rosa serves as a real estate and development broker at La Rosa Realty. **Click here** for more.

7/25/2018

Gmail - ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson Invites You to Join us in Denver, July 19!



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Read the Full Bio](#)

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

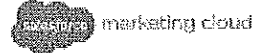


YouTube

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

Powered by



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Media Clips, Friday, June 2

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
To: sml@sarahlatourette.com

Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 8:48 AM

[MEDIA CLIPS](#)[View in a browser](#)[News](#) [Bill Tracking](#) [Legislation](#)

NEWS

Congressional redistricting in Ohio takes another step toward ballot
(Akron Beacon Journal, 6/2/2017)

Analysis: Trump tilts 'America First' toward 'America Alone' (Associated Press, 6/2/2017)

New airport proposed for SW Ohio (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/2/2017)

An international airport in Ravenna? Ohio Rep. Jim Butler pitches idea in new bill (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

Jon Husted says GOP leaders in 29 counties back his bid for governor
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

Ken Harbaugh, former naval pilot and nonprofit executive, to challenge U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs in 2018 (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

National utility workers union endorses Joe Schiavoni for Ohio governor
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

Ohio GOP Senate primary heats up quickly: Ohio Politics Roundup
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

Democratic leaders rally for funds at Senate forum (Columbus Dispatch, 6/2/2017)

Mary Taylor talks about her sons' opiate addiction (Columbus Dispatch, 6/2/2017)

Ohio lawsuit may yet include drug distributors (Columbus Dispatch, 6/2/2017)

Effort to change how Ohio draws districts for Congress underway (Dayton Daily News, 6/2/2017)

Five steps Ohio has taken to combat the deadly opioid addiction crisis (Dayton Daily News, 6/2/2017)

Husted lines up county party official endorsements (Dayton Daily News, 6/2/2017)

Sen. Brown: 'Hold drug companies accountable' for opioid crisis (Dayton Daily News, 6/2/2017)

Social media reacts to Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor opening up about how opioid addiction hit home (Dayton Daily News, 6/2/2017)

Dems seek public's help on Ohio budget (Toledo Blade, 6/2/2017)

Ohio GOP holds local fund-raiser (Toledo Blade, 6/2/2017)

State Sen. Joe Schiavoni picks up first national labor union endorsement in Ohio governor's race (Youngstown Vindicator, 6/2/2017)

EDITORIALS

What a dismissal in Cleveland says about the value of police consent decrees (Akron Beacon Journal, 6/2/2017)

Editorial: Opioid epidemic out of control in Ohio (Canton Repository, 6/2/2017)

Outside America, others see President Trump for the mean, small man he really is: Brent Larkin (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/2/2017)

When politics is a craft (Toledo Blade, 6/2/2017)

Adjudicate swiftly lawsuit against makers of opiates (Youngstown Vindicator, 6/2/2017)

This message is provided to you as part of your subscription to Gongwer News Service.

7/23/2018

Gmail - Ohio Media Clips, Friday, June 2

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Friday, June 2, 2017

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
To: sml@sarahlatourette.com

Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 5:47 PM

[OHIO REPORT](#)[View in a browser](#)[News](#) [Bill Tracking](#) [Legislation](#)

OHIO REPORT FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Franklin County Judge Strikes Laws Limiting Cities' Control Over Micro Wireless, Labor Issues

Industry Groups Balk At Budget Amendment Giving DAS Authority Over Some Design, Construction Contracts

Push For Multi-System Youth Supports In Budget Continues

High Court Clarifies Termination Procedures In Oil And Gas Leases

Agricultural Property Values Move Forward As Farmers Wait For Legislative Fix

Brown Praises Columbus Entrepreneurs, Says Climate Agreement Exit Will Endanger Jobs

FERC Chair 'Troubled' By Diesel Fuel Found In Rover Pipeline Spill

Study: Virus May Have Fueled Toledo Water Crisis

Report Touts Education Savings Accounts; ACT Mix-Up Leads To Invalidated Tests; OSU Receives Federal Ag Grant

Third Frontier Releases Opioid Initiative RFPs; Study Looks At Meal Programs...

Supreme Court Puts Bar Exam On Hold For Prospective Lawyer; Oral Arguments Set For Next Week...

Agency Briefs: AG Sues Adoption Agency; BLS Releases Jobs Numbers; Consumers' Counsel; DAS; BMV; ODNR; Health & Transportation; Public Safety; OMHAS

Politics Notebook: Union Pickets Over Prison Drug Problems; Pillich, Sutton Oppose Trump Environmental Policies

Governor's Appointments

Supplemental Agency Calendar

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

Event Planner

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)

4 attachments



Jun5Schedule.htm
81K



Jun2.htm
68K



170602plan.htm
22K



170602dayplan.htm
5K

**GONGWER** Ohio

The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Volume #86, Report #106 -- Friday, June 2, 2017**Franklin County Judge Strikes Laws Limiting Cities' Control Over Micro Wireless, Labor Issues**

Citing a violation of the "single subject" lawmaking restriction, a Franklin County judge on Friday struck portions of lame duck legislation passed last December that became the vehicle for several provisions aimed at superseding local ordinances.

While blocking portions of the measure (SB331, 131st General Assembly) dealing with city oversight of micro wireless equipment and ballot issues on minimum wage and employment practices, Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge Richard A. Frye let stand several provisions that have the common thread of animal welfare. Those include statutes related to puppy sales, dog breeders, bestiality and animal fighting.

The lawsuit was brought by 50 municipalities that sought to overturn the state's blockage of right-of-way restrictions they could place on telecommunications firms looking to install new wireless technology to facilitate 5G services. The decision did not get to the argument that the statutory language runs counter to home rule authority.

"The breadth of S.B. 331 violates the one-subject rule," the judge wrote. He noted that "matters addressed in this single piece of legislation include criminalizing certain conduct, regulating pet stores and dog retailers, restricting how municipalities may regulate terms and conditions of work, or the minimum wage to be paid workers; and the regulation of a new generation of micro wireless facilities, including equipment placed on municipal property."

The legislation was originally designed to regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and, at the request of Petland, override more restrictive local ordinances such as those that had been passed in Grove City and Toledo. During its journey through the legislature late last year, the bill picked up a number of provisions, many of which dealt in some tangential way with animal welfare.

Noting the bill contained a "severability clause," Judge Frye let those provisions stand, but he said lawmakers went too far, too fast with the other add-ons.

"Bestiality and animal fighting prohibitions were acknowledged to share nothing in common with the wide-ranging, perhaps revolutionary telecommunications provisions, or with statewide minimum wage and working conditions statutes," Judge Frye wrote of the legal arguments surrounding the bill.

"From that perspective it has been creatively argued that this court should conclude S.B. 331 is primarily concerned with unifying rules on business subjects, leaving as outliers invalid under the one-subject rule all of the animal-related provisions."

The state had argued that the legislation did not violate the single subject rule because it addresses a "patchwork quilt of differing municipal regulations scattered across the state."

Stricken language includes a prohibition against local governments restricting the placement of micro wireless equipment in public rights of way. Also blocked was language aimed at a proposed Cleveland initiative to raise the minimum wage, and potential ballot issues to impose work hour mandates and other requirements on

employers. The latter provision specifically granted private employers exclusive authority over matters related to work location, schedules and benefits absent an exemption.

The micro wireless language was pushed by AT&T, with support from Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon, but it stirred up concerns from the Ohio Municipal Electric Association and the Ohio Municipal League.

In his decision, Judge Frye also chided lawmakers for the rapid manner in which the bill was cobbled together, saying "nothing in the record before the court suggests that the broad telecommunications provisions now in focus were given formal hearings in either chamber."

"Hasty consideration of such a diverse assortment of subjects directly undermines the policy underlying the one-subject rule, which is to encourage a more orderly and fair legislative process," he wrote.

The laws took effect March 21.

Attorney General Mike DeWine's office said the decision is under review.

Industry Groups Balk At Budget Amendment Giving DAS Authority Over Some Design, Construction Contracts

Budget language added in the House that would let the Department of Administrative Services award contracts for maintenance projects has drawn pushback from industry groups who say it would let the state circumvent competitive selection processes.

The amendment to the budget bill (HB 49) would allow DAS to let contracts for improvements to existing facilities and state that the authority did not belong to the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. It also says a contract awarded by DAS takes precedence over the OFCC's authority.

Brad Miller, a spokesman for House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), said the amendment was intended to clarify the existing authority granted to DAS and the OFCC, and to continue an efficient process through DAS to provide state agencies and institutions access to small projects without bureaucratic roadblocks.

"As is the case in every budget cycle, the legislation is vetted by both chambers before a final proposal is agreed upon," he said. "So the caucus welcomes the conversation that has been spearheaded by this provision and looks forward to continuing to work through the process over the coming weeks."

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville), who Mr. Miller said offered the amendment, did not respond to requests for comment. Mr. Miller said the language was proposed by a "constituent," but the backer was not identified.

The proposal has drawn concern from construction industry groups as the Senate hears testimony on the budget.

Andrea Ashley, representing a coalition of contractor and construction groups, said Thursday before the Senate Finance Committee that the change would hinder competitive selection.

She said the language would allow DAS to award construction contracts as "supplies" or "services" contracts, and that it could use its cooperative purchasing authority to extend the same ability to all political subdivisions.

For large projects, such as a renovation of the Statehouse or the Supreme Court, the state would be able to contract without competitive bidding and other requirements under that law, such as advertising, bonding and subcontractor protections.

The change "makes the award of construction contracts less transparent; and provides a means for a non-construction authority (DAS) to administer numerous and potentially very large construction projects without appropriate staff to manage it," she said in written testimony.

David Field, executive vice president of the Ohio component of the American Institute of Architects, submitted testimony to the Senate Finance Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee urging the provision's removal from the budget.

"This House amendment to the state's budget bill... takes a step backward by allowing for the establishment of a second construction authority in the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, causing confusion, inconsistency and the potential of significant legal entanglements," he wrote.

A DAS spokesman said the agency did not request the language and that it was under review.

Push For Multi-System Youth Supports In Budget Continues

Advocates continue to push for more assistance for youth involved in multiple state systems in the budget as the Senate begins looking at amendments.

Children services and behavioral health advocates have been asking the General Assembly to include recommendations made last year by the Joint Legislative Committee on Multi-System Youth.

Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green), who chaired that committee, said there have been no concrete plans yet for implementing the recommendations, which included a plan for a crisis stabilization fund to help families avoid giving up custody for children with serious behavioral health needs. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 29, 2017)

"We strive to do as much as we can to keep families together so that families don't have to relinquish custody to get the necessary services for children," he said in an interview. "That may have been the most important problem shared with the multi-system youth committee."

Sen. Gardner pointed to other provisions added in the budget (HB 49), such as more funding for children services programs and child care for kinship families, saying they could help with the problem.

"We're trying to enact as many as we can in this tough budget," he said. He called the money for children services and other programs "good things that are cousins to some of the things that we're trying to do."

While it's not clear if the General Assembly, facing the likelihood of having to make significant cuts in a tight budget year, will implement the joint committee's recommendations, advocates continue to push for more help for affected families.

"Parents every day are facing the unthinkable where they are being forced to choose, do I maintain custody of my child or do I give them up to the child welfare system so they can maintain treatment," Teresa Lampl, associated director of the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Service Providers, said at a budget forum Thursday hosted by Senate Democrats.

Ms. Lampl urged lawmakers to create a safety net of funding to help families avoid custody relinquishment.

"Many times what they need is residential care and many times the only available services are out of state," she said.

The Public Children Services Association of Ohio, in a report released last month, noted the number of children who were in custody for reasons other than abuse and neglect. In July 2016, the report said, 63% of children in the system were in custody for other reasons, often because parents gave up custody to secure treatment. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 9, 2017)

The report said multi-system youth, who are often older, account for a disproportionate part of agency placement costs. Children ages 12-17, who make up 33% of those in custody, accounted for 52% of placement costs. Those age 5 and under, who are 38% of children in custody, account for 17% of costs.

High Court Clarifies Termination Procedures In Oil And Gas Leases

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled this week that termination provisions in delay-rental clauses do not extend beyond the primary terms of an oil and gas lease.

The decision, authored by Justice Patrick Fischer, reverses a Fourth District Court of Appeals ruling.

The case stems from an oil and gas lease Ronald and Barbara Bohlen signed with Alliance Petroleum Corp. in 2006, the high court's media arm reported.

The lease contained a clause that required the company to drill a well within one year, along with a delay-rental fee of \$5,500 for each year it did not drill a well. Failure to pay the fee terminated the lease, per the agreement.

The document also contained a provision requiring the company to make up the difference between the royalty payments and the annual rental payments when the royalty payments fell below \$5,500.

Within one year the company had drilled two wells, both of which produced gas but not oil. Just once from that point forward were the Bohlens paid \$5,500, which led them to seek declaratory judgement in Washington County Common Pleas Court in 2013.

At the trial court level, the Bohlens made three arguments, including that the lease terminated when the company did not make the delay-rental fee payments.

While the Bohlens won their case in common pleas court, the appellate court reversed the decision, leading them to take their case to the high court.

In the court's decision, it delineated between "primary terms" and "secondary terms" in the contract.

It found that because the company drilled two wells within the required timeframe, the delay-rental clause - a primary term - was not triggered and the contract was in secondary terms.

"The plain language of the parties' oil and gas lease requires the lessee to pay a delay rental for deferring commencement of a well, otherwise the lease terminates; however, the lessee did not defer commencement of a well beyond the primary term of the lease, because at least one well was drilled within the first year," Justice Fischer wrote.

"Therefore, the lease did not terminate under the delay-rental clause. The requirement in the addendum that the lessees pay \$5,500 as a minimum annual rental did not invoke the termination provision in the delay-rental clause."

The issue of underpayments was not raised in the case.

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor and Justices Terrence O'Donnell, Judith French, Bill O'Neill and Patrick DeWine joined the opinion.

Justice Sharon Kennedy concurred in judgement only.

Agricultural Property Values Move Forward As Farmers Wait For Legislative Fix

Staff of the Department of Taxation on Friday continued prepping farmers for this year's round of Current Agricultural Use Values, even as those landowners root for a pair of legislation provisions that would rework the formula.

ODT held a public hearing on the CAUV formula in Columbus, giving farmers and stakeholder groups a chance to weigh in on proposed values. The hearing was over in a short 20 minutes, which was in contrast to legislative hearings in recent months that saw scores of farmers and their associations urge lawmakers to fix the program.

ODT Assistant Administrator Gloria Gardner said she kept her presentation intentionally brief because the proposed values haven't changed much since the Agricultural Advisory Committee last met in March. Those in attendance made only three comments, mostly to voice frustration with the department's approach to valued woodlands.

It was Jarra Underwood of the County Auditors Association who broached the topic farmers are most closely watching: the two legislative efforts that landowners hope will pass this year and provide relief from rising CAUV taxes.

Senators are currently considering budget language (HB 49) to phase in changes to the CAUV calculation and not penalize the adoption of conservation practices to protect water quality. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 2, 2017)

That chamber has already passed a separate bill (SB 36) to alleviate farmers. That bill has been assigned to the House Ways & Means Committee where lawmakers are waiting to see the fate of the budget provision. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2017)

"If one of those should pass and have an impact on CAUV will you hold the values to release them until after that or will you proceed with values and adjust them according to the legislation," Ms. Underwood asked.

Ms. Gardner and other ODT staff said it depends on the contents of the legislation as passed. In other words, whatever course of action the General Assembly dictates is what the department will pursue.

Presenting to the public in attendance, Ms. Gardner placed the average value for cropland of all soil types at \$1,249 for 2017 - about a 25% decline from 2014's high watermark of \$1,668.

She said 2017 continued to see a drop in crop prices, which in turn impacts values. Meanwhile, ODT is recommending increasing the deduction for surface draining for woodlands from \$380 to \$400 and is maintaining a prior increase in clearing costs from \$500 to \$1,000 for all soils.

Ted Finnarn, attorney for the Ohio Farmers Union, said ODT needs to do more to revise the formula when it comes to the cost of clearing and draining woodlands. He also urged the department to revisit the capitalization rate, which is projected to be 6.2% for 2017.

Mr. Finnarn and other proponents of a legislative fix have argued small changes in the capitalization rate result in major swings in values due to current low interest rates.

"The capitalization rate, based on past history of the formula, there are two factors that are actually sinking fund factors that were not in the formula to start with," Mr. Finnarn said. "Hopefully this will be worked on in the future."

Brad Perkins, executive director of the Ohio Forestry Association, said he seconds that concern.

"I don't expect they would have been brought up to their actual value of the woodland clearing in one step but we'd like to have seen the department at least start a process over five or six years to get that up to the level it should be," he said.

Brown Praises Columbus Entrepreneurs, Says Climate Agreement Exit Will Endanger Jobs

U.S. Sen Sherrod Brown on Friday offered encouragement to Columbus small business owners, saying they're an integral piece of the capital city's success.

Speaking at a small business workshop hosted by Facebook and the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the Cleveland Democrat said Columbus is becoming more nationally known as a result of the entrepreneurial spirit found in the city.

"What I love about this city is this energy; the fact that a lot of you put your hands up that you weren't born here," he said, calling Columbus a "magnet" for young talent.

"That really is because of a lot of people like you that want to be entrepreneurs, that want to get together on social media and get together socially and change this city and this state and change the country," Sen. Brown said.

Having lived in Columbus 25 years ago and now a frequent visitor of his two daughters and three granddaughters who live in the city, he said he's also proud of how diverse, innovative and supportive the city has become.

"People in this city take care of their own. They embrace diversity, they embrace the energy of young people, of millennials," Sen. Brown said. "It's why we're going to see this city grow and grow and grow and grow."

The lawmaker was integral in working with Columbus to earn \$50 million in Smart City grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation to increase transit connectivity, Columbus Chamber President Don DePerro said.

He also touted Sen. Brown's work on the issues of net neutrality, health insurance, the opiate crises and a \$37 million Central Ohio Transit Authority grant to demonstrate the Democrat's support of small businesses.

Paris Climate Accord: Following his remarks at the event, Sen. Brown told reporters he's opposed to the president's decision to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris climate accord, citing concerns that it puts coal jobs at risk, among other things.

Sen. Brown said he's supportive of the coal industry, but pulling out of a climate agreement that nearly all other nations are part of is not the way to revitalize the labor market.

"I join with the governor and so many others...that think it was a terrible decision," he said. "We're joining the countries of Syria and Nicaragua, which are the only countries that aren't part of this."

"It's going to cost us jobs," he continued. "Columbus is doing great things at Ohio State with fuel cells and technology for busses with transit systems. Toledo has more solar energy jobs than almost any other city in America. We're seeing wind turbines do well here. We're seeing new natural gas utility plants and power plants being built."

Sen. Brown said claims that coal jobs could increase if the country isn't part of the climate deal aren't backed by evidence.

"I want to help coal country. I've spent a lot of time in southeastern Ohio and I was just in Steubenville. I go there often and there are problems there as there are everywhere in the state and we've got to focus on it, but making empty promises is demagoguery," he said.

2018 Election: Sen. Brown said he has not yet made plans to start campaigning for the 2018 Senate race.

"Some people run for office and just continue campaigning; others of us serve," he said.

"I'm doing my job and if I keep doing my job the election will take care of itself by most measures," Sen. Brown added.

No Democrats have announced plans to challenge the incumbent. Meanwhile, Treasurer Josh Mandel and businessman Mike Gibbons have kicked off their campaigns and are gearing up for a potential Republican primary race.

FERC Chair 'Troubled' By Diesel Fuel Found In Rover Pipeline Spill

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has found traces of diesel fuel among the more than 2 million gallons of drilling mud the company behind the Rover Pipeline spilled earlier this year into Ohio wetlands.

The discovery, disclosed Thursday in filings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, prompted OEPA to boost its proposed fine of the company and led FERC Chairwoman Cheryl LaFleur to publicly weigh in on Rover's ongoing controversies in a public statement.

But a spokeswoman for Rover's parent company, Energy Transfer Partners, questioned OEPA's finding. Rover Pipeline LLC had previously contended that the drilling mud spilled was nontoxic in nature.

- "We are fully cooperating with both the FERC and the Ohio EPA on this important issue," Rover spokeswoman Alexis Daniel said. "At this time, however, there is no evidence that the source of the hydrocarbons is related to our drilling activity."

The OEPA disagrees and has recently bumped up its proposed fine on the company to \$914,000, up from the previous \$714,000. It's the second time the civil fine, which is spelled out in yet-to-be-approved administrative orders, has been increased; it was initially set at \$431,000. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 26, 2017)

After additional tests of samples collected at various sites after the spills near the Tuscarawas River horizontal drilling site, OEPA on May 26 notified FERC it had detected the presence of petroleum hydrocarbon constituents commonly found in diesel fuel. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 20, 2017)

Terry Turpin, FERC's Director of Energy Projects, wrote to Rover Pipeline Thursday disclosing the finding and suggesting the presence of that material indicates Rover violated the stipulations under which FERC approved the project.

"Based on the results of the sampling conducted by Ohio EPA, the Commission's Office of Enforcement will immediately initiate an investigation to determine the underlying facts that led to the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons in the drilling fluid," Mr. Turpin wrote, calling for the company's full cooperation.

Also Thursday, FERC Chairwoman LaFleur and Commissioner Colette Honorable waded in publicly with a joint statement. It noted that the company's certificate application was approved under the understanding the mud would consist of only "nontoxic/non-hazardous bentonite clay and water."

The pair said they are "troubled" by indications diesel fuel was present in the drilling mud, which they said might suggest the company deviated from FERC-approved stipulations in that certificate.

"Although we have no reason to believe the release represents an imminent threat to human health or the environment, this incident raises concerns about potential long-term environmental impacts, including impacts on sensitive wetlands in Ohio," the commissioners wrote. "Moreover, the presence of diesel fuel in the drilling mud is inconsistent with the commitments made by Rover on which the commission relied to certificate its project."

Commissioners LaFleur and Honorable closed their letter by vowing to "closely monitor (the project's) progress to ensure that Rover follows the terms of its certificate."

Study: Virus May Have Fueled Toledo Water Crisis

New research suggests a virus helped advance the 2014 Toledo water crisis that left residents without access to drinking water for several days.

Potentially more alarming is that the group found in its study that the factors leading up the crisis are "not atypical of re-occurring Lake Erie blooms and thus may re-occur in the future."

The study was published in the *Environmental Science and Technology* journal and was led by the University of Tennessee in cooperation with several other institutions, including Bowling Green State University.

The study determined that the characteristics of the algal bloom were similar to those from prior years with one exception: the presence of a viral infection that possibly caused those cells to break open and therefore release their toxic contents into open water.

Those toxins are typically trapped inside the cells until the cell dies, according to researchers. But such viruses, which only infect bacteria, can easily rupture the cell, thereby releasing the toxins and giving them access to water facility intakes.

"The study changes the way we think about how the toxin moves around aquatic systems and get into water supplies," lead author Steven Wilhelm, a professor of microbiology at the University of Tennessee, said in a release. "It may help us understand how these organisms persist in nature."

In addition to BGSU's Michael McKay and Mr. Wilhelm, the study's authors include: Morgan Steffen of James Madison University, Gregory Dick of the University of Michigan, and Tim Davis of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory.

In August 2014, the city of Toledo issued a weekend-long drinking water advisory after test results showed levels of algae-produced toxins above that recommended by the World Health Organization. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 4, 2014)

The incident further highlighted the dangers of toxic algal blooms in Lake Erie and is still oft-cited by environmental groups and lawmakers pushing legislation to improve water quality.

According to the universities, the team of 25 researchers set about examining microcystis, the cyanobacteria responsible for Lake Erie's algal blooms. By sequencing RNA from Toledo water samples, they developed computer models to simulate the bloom's movements.

Researchers said the study shows the need for a new approach to monitoring water toxins, including increased efforts and research on ways to monitor dissolved or "cell-free" toxins.

"Algal blooms are growing in intensity, severity, and frequency, and we're trying to understand why," Mr. Wilhelm said. "This study is another piece of the puzzle."

Report Touts Education Savings Accounts; ACT Mix-Up Leads To Invalidated Tests; OSU Receives Federal Ag Grant

The Buckeye Institute is calling on the state to fund education savings accounts to expand school choice and help students save for higher education.

The push follows this week's release of a report detailing the history of ESAs and how they're used in other states. It also lays out proposals for how Ohio could create its own model for students to receive a set amount of dollars for schools of their choices.

Any money that doesn't go toward tuition would then remain in an ESA to be used for other educational expenses such as tutors, materials or college, according to the report.

"To enhance choices for families, infuse innovation into the K-12 sector, and ensure that education opportunities are as unique as the children they teach, Ohio should establish a universal ESA option that maximizes flexibility, accommodation, and parent-driven accountability, researchers Greg Lawson and Lindsey Burke wrote in the report.

"Ohio students deserve access to the best educational opportunities. Empowering all families to customize their children's education through ESAs builds upon Ohio's existing school choice options to ensure that every child has instruction suited to their individual needs."

ESAs are part of companion bills that seek to provide vouchers to students based on financial need and are currently being considered ([HB 200](#) & [HB 85](#)) in each chamber. Some lawmakers have expressed concern about that portion of the measures, saying it would be unfair to provide savings accounts to only students who take part in the voucher program. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, March 22, 2017](#))

Exams: ACT officials are refusing to score tests taken by hundreds of Ohio students, saying they were not correctly administered.

According to a [Columbus Dispatch report](#), 21 districts were sent incorrect versions of a paper test that was administered on April 19. ACT has invalidated those tests and has offered to allow students to retake the test for free on a later date.

District leaders have said the mix-up could result in some students not having their scores available for use on college applications in the fall. They and the state have reached out to ACT and asked that the tests administered in April be scored.

Grant: The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded Ohio State University's Plant Biotechnology Center nearly \$1 million to develop a childhood obesity prevention program for at risk youth.

The grant will be used to develop a garden-based program targeted at low-income communities that promotes improved diets and physical activity.

[U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown](#) (D-Cleveland) applauded the initiative.

"All children deserve access to nutritious foods to help them grow and thrive," he said in a statement. "This grant will give OSU the opportunity to help out Ohio children who lose access to school-based feeding programs during the summer, while also encouraging kids to choose healthy fruits and vegetables grown here in our state."

Third Frontier Releases Opioid Initiative RFPs; Study Looks At Meal Programs...

The Ohio Third Frontier Commission is accepting proposals as part of a program designed to fund new technology in the fight against drug abuse and addiction.

The commission has committed \$20 million toward technology targeting the drug crisis that needs support getting to the market.

[Gov. John Kasich](#) announced the initiative in his State of the State address in April, and the commission unveiled details of it last week. (See [Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2017](#))

"Ohio is investing nearly a billion dollars each year on the problem of abuse and addiction," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. "Advancing technology is one more way to ensure we leave no stone unturned in the fight against opioid addiction."

The RFP is available [online](#) from DSA.

Third Frontier is also accepting [proposals](#) for a competition manager to handle the Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge.

Meal Programs Study: A [report](#) released this week by the Center for Community Solutions detailed the funding and challenges of food delivery programs for older adults in Ohio.

More than 457,000 Ohioans over age 60 are at risk for hunger, the report found, and visits to Ohio food pantries are up 20% in the past four years.

"Hunger has been shown to lead to long-term health challenges, which can be costly to address, but for the same cost as one day in a hospital, we could provide home-delivered meals for a year, with money left over," author Kate Warren, a research associate at CCS, said in a statement.

The report detailed ways meal programs for seniors are funded, including through Medicaid, the Older Americans Act and the Community Development Block Grant.

"Every dollar would affect senior centers' ability to provide continued services, as they already carry the burden of strained budgets. For some senior centers, any cut could cause complete closure," said Zulma Zabala, chair of the CCS board of directors. "Marginalizing seniors, to the point of denying them food security, will undoubtedly affect us all in years to come."

OHA Annual Meeting: Cybersecurity, policy and quality will be the focuses of the Ohio Hospital Association's annual meeting June 12-14, with presenters including cybersecurity expert Morgan Wright and author Ben Nemtin.

"For 102 years Ohio's hospital leaders have gathered annually to share best practices and learn about the most significant changes in health care," OHA President and CEO Mike Abrams said in a statement. "Hospitals and health care systems in Ohio, and across the nation, are exploring what it means to be a hospital in a rapidly transforming health care environment."

Gov. Kasich and Cleveland Clinic CEO Toby Cosgrove will also be inducted into the OHA's hall of fame.

Supreme Court Puts Bar Exam On Hold For Prospective Lawyer; Oral Arguments Set For Next Week...

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled that a law school graduate who refused to disclose the details of prior traffic violations cannot sit for the bar exam until July 2018.

In a 5-2 per curiam decision, the court found that Shamir Coll's refusal to provide details about his traffic infractions "serves only to heighten our concerns about his character and fitness to practice law."

"Coll's failures to disclose the requested information also raise significant questions about his cognitive capacity to learn, to recall what has been learned, to reason and to analyze, and to exercise good judgment and act in accordance with the law and the rules governing the practice of law - not only in his own professional affairs but also in the affairs that clients will one day entrust to him," the opinion reads.

Mr. Coll in August 2015 submitted his bar exam application and in February 2016 the Board of Commissioners on Character and Fitness conducted a hearing to determine why Mr. Coll failed to detail each moving violation over the past 10 years, the court's media arm reported.

During the hearing, Mr. Coll blamed racism for being ticketed in the past. He later provided a bar admission specialist with identifying information under the belief that it was the board's responsibility to investigate the incidents.

However, the court determined the process requires honesty on the part of the applicant.

Justices Sharon Kennedy, Judith French, Bill O'Neill, Patrick Fischer and Patrick DeWine made up the majority.

Justice Terrence O'Donnell, in an opinion that dissented in part and concurred in part, said that he would not permit Mr. Coll to reapply.

"Coll has demonstrated an attitude that shows he lacks the ability to take that oath and does not have the professional judgment demanded of all lawyers," he wrote. "His lack of candor and his disrespect for the court in frustrating our obligation to thoroughly investigate those seeking admission to the bar in Ohio suggest that he will not ever have the character and fitness to take the oath to become a lawyer in Ohio."

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor joined Justice O'Donnell's opinion.

Oral Arguments: The high court is set to hear oral arguments in seven cases next week, including one that will decide whether records related to a case that was dismissed without prejudice can be sealed before the statute of limitations expires. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 26, 2017)

The court will also hear:

- *State v. Martin* in which a Cleveland man will attempt to have his conviction and death penalty overturned by arguing that his trial counsel was ineffective in ensuring potential jurors were not swayed by pre-trial publicity.
- *Adams v. Testa* in which landowners will argue they have a right to challenge current agricultural use valuations before the Board of Tax Appeals. Two cases were consolidated into one.
- *Corrigan v. Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co* in which the court will determine if the PUCO acted properly when it allowed the removal of a tree on private property that allegedly interfered with a transmission line.
- *State ex rel. Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services v. Industrial Commission* in which the court will reconsider a December decision that found that state law does not allow for an award of permanent-partial disability compensation to an injured worker who has already been awarded permanent-total disability compensation in the same claim.
- *State v. Jackson* in which the court will determine if a man convicted of aggravated robbery and grand theft of a motor vehicle can appeal his convictions even though the court did not reach a verdict on two kidnapping charges.

Lawyer Disbarred: A Sylvania lawyer has been permanently disbarred by the high court.

In a 4-3 per curiam decision, the court found that Beauregard Maximillion Harvey is not fit to practice law in Ohio.

Mr. Harvey, who has been suspended three times, has a history of misconduct and non-compliance with court orders, the high court's media arm reported.

"He has a history of misconduct, including a pattern of not simply neglecting clients but abandoning them," the opinion reads. "Considering this grievous misconduct, our precedent, the profusion of aggravating factors, and the absence of any mitigating factors, we hold that he is not fit to practice law in Ohio and that disbarment is therefore the only appropriate sanction."

Chief Justice O'Connor and Justices O'Donnell, Fischer and DeWine made up the majority. Justices Kennedy, French and O'Neill dissented and stated they would indefinitely suspend Mr. Harvey.

Opioid Epidemic: There is a greater need for Court Appointed Special Advocates across the state due to the opioid epidemic, the high court's media arm reported.

From 2000 to 2016 there has been an 11% increase in children in protective custody.

Across the state in 2016 there were 40 CASA programs covering 47 counties and serving more than 8,750 children.

Compared with 2012, about 1,500 more children were served. However, the number of volunteers rose by just 68 over that same time.

"In some of the counties that need it the most, there are the least amount of resources," CASA Executive Director Doug Stephens said.

Disciplinary Hearings: The Board of Professional Conduct announced six disciplinary hearings in June.

Agency Briefs: AG Sues Adoption Agency; BLS Releases Jobs Numbers; Consumers' Counsel; DAS; BMV; ODNr; Health & Transportation; Public Safety; OMHAS

Attorney General Mike DeWine announced a lawsuit against an adoption agency for allegedly misleading clients and taking payment for services it never performed.

European Adoption Consultants, based in Strongsville, is accused of violating Ohio's consumer protection and charitable laws, according to the lawsuit. More than 70 clients filed complaints against the agency, claiming that the European Adoption Consultants failed to provide services or refunds after the clients had paid them.

"Our goal is to help the families who have been affected by this," Attorney General Mike DeWine said in a statement. "Many people invested significant time and money to adopt through this agency, and now they are left without their files or the money they paid. As a result, they face additional time, effort, and costs to complete their adoptions."

The lawsuit accuses the owner of the agency, Margaret Cole, of making misrepresentations about the countries with which the agency had adoption programs, consumer eligibility for certain adoption programs, the length of time an adoption would take, whether infants from certain countries could be adopted, and whether fees were properly distributed after being collected from consumers.

If the lawsuit is successful, Ms. Cole would be prohibited from operating or working for a charitable organization and European Adoption Consultants would be dissolved under Ohio charitable law.

U.S. Department of Labor: The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced Friday that payroll employment rose by 138,000 in May, although the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3%. The primary job gains occurred in health care and mining.

Consumers' Counsel: Customers of AEP Ohio will receive a refund through a credit on their June 2017 electric bills. The refund comes as part of a settlement negotiated last December between AEP Ohio, the Consumers' Counsel, and several other parties.

The refund credit is based on a customer's electricity usage between August 2012 and May 2015. An average customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month will receive about a \$60 credit.

"Many consumers purchase their electric service from AEP Ohio's 'standard service offer' where they receive the benefit of low market prices on their monthly electric bills," said Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston. "I am pleased that we and AEP Ohio settled our differences about electricity charges, so that these consumers could receive a refund."

Administrative Services: The agency is holding a state surplus vehicle auction featuring a 14-foot 1989 Sea Nymph V Boat and a 2014 four-door Dodge Durango SXT.

About 210 vehicles will be up for auction, including motorcycles, cars, trucks, and vans.

The auction will be held Saturday, June 10, at the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, General Services Division headquarters, 4200 Surface Rd. The gates open at 8 a.m., and the auction lasts from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bureau of Motor Vehicles: Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities partnered with the BMV and the Office of Criminal Justice Services to create a video for hearing-impaired individuals who are interested in obtaining a Commercial Driver's License with a Hearing Exemption.

"This video uses sign language to communicate the important message that obtaining a CDL is possible," said BMV Registrar Don Petit. "The response is growing as word spreads about this employment option and we are pleased that it is being embraced."

The video can be viewed on the [OOD](#) and [BMV](#) websites.

Natural Resources: The department announced that Ohio has been recognized as the nation's leader in Tree City USA for the 36th consecutive year. The Tree City USA program encourages better care of the nation's forests by recognizing communities that have excellent tree care programs.

"We are proud to have so many Ohio communities that recognize the value trees provide to their neighborhoods and residents," said State Forester Robert Boyles. "These trees help provide Ohio's cities with cleaner air and water, better storm water control, cooler, quieter streets and attractive landscapes."

Ohioans planted more than 27,000 trees last year and invested a combined total of \$40.8 million in urban forestry efforts.

The agency also announced that 21,000 turkeys were checked by Ohio hunters during the 2017 spring hunting season. In 2016, hunters checked 17,793 turkeys.

Health & Transportation: The two departments have partnered in creating an awareness campaign called Your Move. The campaign encourages Ohioans to choose active transportation and to make it safer to walk and ride bicycles.

"We want Ohioans to think outside their car! It's amazing who you can meet and what you can see when you walk, bike and bus," said Department of Transportation Active Transportation Manager Julie Walcoff, "When people think outside their car it helps to keep all road users safe."

The campaign was created in response to the high number of bicycle- and pedestrian-related crashes in Ohio in the past year. It is one of the first joint agency initiatives of its kind in the nation.

Public Safety: The Ohio State Highway Patrol reported 14 deaths on Ohio roads over Memorial Day weekend, one fewer than last year.

Overall, the Patrol made over thirty thousand enforcement contacts over the course of the weekend. As part of a joint effort with Ohio's six neighboring states, the Patrol focused on enforcing seatbelt laws and issued almost ten thousand seat belt citations.

Mental Health and Addiction Services: MHAS published their monthly e-Update for June, covering topics such as the new Community Action Guide to address opioid abuse, the Athens Adam-Amanda Center groundbreaking, and workshops providing guidance for journalists reporting on suicide.

Politics Notebook: Union Pickets Over Prison Drug Problems; Pillich, Sutton Oppose Trump Environmental Policies

The union representing the state's prison workers protested what they believe are unsafe conditions at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville.

The Ohio Civil Service Employees Association said violence and drug use have been on the rise at the maximum security facility, prompting a recent picket.

"At the same time, managers have dealt with understaffing by attempting to end-run the union contract, while mandatory overtime remains a security risk causing officers to become fatigued and less effective," the union said in announcing plans to picket the facility.

The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction denied the allegations.

"The allegations of a cover-up related to drug testing or drugs is inaccurate," spokeswoman JoEllen Smith said. "The administration at SOCF remains focused and diligent in efforts to prevent and intercept drugs from being brought into the facility."

Pillich On Climate: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Connie Pillich ripped President Donald Trump for his decision to pull the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Accord, saying that if she is elected she would "position Ohio to uphold the international climate agreement" by proposing the state join the U.S. Climate Alliance.

"Donald Trump's reckless abandonment of the Paris Climate Agreement is an irresponsible attempt to please a fringe element of his supporters over the recommendations of the business community, pleas from scientists, wishes of the American public, and the future of our children," Ms. Pillich said in a statement.

"I'm not going to idly watch Donald Trump doom the next generation. When I'm governor, I'll make sure that Ohio is on the right side of history -- protecting our planet and building a new energy economy that puts our citizens back to work. Our children and our grandchildren will not be held hostage by extremists."

Sutton On Great Lakes: Betty Sutton, another rival for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2018, also issued a critique of President Trump's policies, with her focus on proposed budget cuts to programs aimed at protecting the Great Lakes.

"After a failed attempt to gut funding for our Great Lakes in this year's budget, President Trump has tried again in his newly proposed 2018 budget. The plan eliminates federal funding that would provide protection for our Great Lakes," she said in a fundraising email to supporters that also was critical of the Paris agreement move.

"Too often we are told that job creation and protecting our environment are inherently opposed. I don't believe that. In fact, I've spent my life fighting for jobs and our environment in tandem," the former executive in charge of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation stated.

Governor's Appointments

Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division: Jason T. Wells of Akron (Summit Co.) will assume office June 27 and must run in November 2018 to retain the seat for the unexpired term ending January 2, 2021. He is replacing Judge Lynne S. Callahan who was elected to the Ninth District Court of Appeals.

Mr. Wells received his bachelor's degree and law degree from University of Akron. He is a retired Captain of the Ohio National Guard and currently a private attorney where he helped establish Summit County's Valor Court for Veterans.

Barberton Municipal Court: Todd M. McKenney of Akron (Summit Co.) will assume office June 19 and must run in November to retain the seat for the full term commencing January 1, 2018. He is replacing Judge Jill Flagg-Lanzinger who was appointed to the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division.

Mr. McKenney received his bachelor's degree from Hiram College and his law degree from Ohio State University. He is currently the Magistrate for the Summit County Court of Common Pleas.

Third Frontier Commission: Richard Seaman of Wooster (Wayne Co.) for a term beginning June 2 and ending April 1, 2020.

State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services: Philip D. Koster of Dublin (Franklin Co.) for a term beginning June 2 and ending Nov. 12, 2019.

Sinclair Community College Board of Trustees: Maninder Singh Kalra of Mason (Warren Co.) for a term beginning June 2 and ending July 9, 2020.

Wright State University Board of Trustees: Bruce A. Langos of Dayton (Montgomery Co.) for a term beginning June 2 and ending June 30, 2018; and Austin Rains of Dayton (Montgomery Co.) as a student

member for a term beginning July 1 and ending June 30, 2019.

Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board: Chief Michael Navarre of Toledo (Lucas Co.) was reappointed for a term beginning June 2 and ending April 29, 2020.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, June 6


Educator Standards Board, Quest Business Center, 8405 Pulsar Pl., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio

The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Event Planner

Monday, June 5

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, Crown Hill Country Club, 9500 US 22, Williamsport, 12 p.m., (\$2,000 Tournament Sponsor - includes 4 golfers, a hole sponsorship and signage at the Club house; \$1,000 Eagle Sponsor - includes 4 golfers and a hole sponsorship; \$500 Birdie Sponsor - includes 2 golfers and a hole sponsorship; \$200 Hole Sponsor; \$100 Individual Golfer - includes lunch, refreshments, dinner, team awards and skill contests \$50 Dinner & Drinks to Peterson for Good Government)

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Rocky River Event Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, 5:30 p.m., (Platinum Event Sponsor: \$1,000; Gold Sponsor: \$175; Silver Sponsor: \$125; Bronze Sponsor: \$50; Single Ticket: \$25/person to Friends of Dave Greenspan)

Tuesday, June 6

Thomas B. Fordham Institute panel discussion on release of statewide analysis of interdistrict open enrollment, 6th Fl., 100 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8 a.m.

Wednesday, June 7

NFIB Small Business Day at the Capitol, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 9 a.m.

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls), Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon), Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Hudson), Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) and Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Lounge, 136 E Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$2,500 Event Chair | \$1,000 Event Host | \$500 Event Sponsor | \$350 Individual to Friends of John Eklund, LaRose for Senate, Citizens for Lehner, The Committee to Elect Joe Uecker and Friends of Matt Dolan)

Rep. Mike Ashford (D-Toledo) fundraiser, Tony's, 16 W. Beck St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Friend: \$250 to Citizens with Ashford)

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) and Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Crystal Room, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$5,000 Event Chair | \$2,500 Event Host | \$1,000 Event Sponsor | \$500 Individual to Citizens for Obhof and Citizens for Gardner Committee)

Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000, Host: \$500, Friend: \$350 to John Boccieri for Ohio Committee)

Ohio House Democratic Caucus leadership fundraiser, Huntington Park, 330 Huntington Park Ln., Columbus, 7:05 p.m., (\$1,000 to House Democratic Caucus Fund)

Thursday, June 8

Legislators vs. Ohio Village Muffins base ball game, West Lawn, Statehouse, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, June 9

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) golf outing fundraiser, Buckeye Hills Country Club, 7261 County Highway 166, Greenfield, 9 a.m., (9:00am Registration and Donuts; 10:00am Shotgun Start. Event Host: \$5,000; Event Chair: \$2,500; Event Sponsor: \$1,250; Foursome: \$500; Individual Golfer: \$125; Tee/Green Sponsor: \$100 to Committee to Elect Cliff Rosenberger)

Monday, June 12

Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association golf outing, Pinnacle Golf Club, 1500 Pinnacle Club Dr., Grove City

Wednesday, June 14

1984 Society forum: Forecast 2018, Sheraton Downton, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 11 a.m., (Featuring Frank Luntz)

Republican Senate Campaign Committee fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Crystal Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$5,000 Chair | \$2,500 Host | \$1,000 Sponsor | \$500 to Republican Senate Campaign Committee)

Ohio House Republican Organizing Committee fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500 to OHROC)

Thursday, June 15

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) fundraiser, Spriggs residence, 330 Eagle Court, Springfield, 5:30 p.m., (\$2,500 Diamond Sponsor | \$1,000 Gold Sponsor | \$500 Silver Sponsor | \$250 Bronze Sponsor | \$100 Supporter to Hackett for Ohio. Special guest: State Auditor Dave Yost, Candidate for Attorney General)

Friday, June 16

Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) & Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) golf outing fundraiser, Bob O'Link Golf Course, 4141 Center Rd., Avon, 9:30 a.m., (9:30am Registration and Light Breakfast; 10:30am Shotgun Start; 3:30pm Heavy Appetizers. Eagle Sponsor: \$1,500; Birdie Sponsor: \$750; Foursome: \$400; Hole Sponsor: \$200; Individual Golfer: \$125 to Manning for Ohio (for Rep. Manning) and Committee to Elect Manning (for Sen. Manning))

Tuesday, June 20

Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) fundraiser, Tony's, 16 W. Beck St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Friend: \$350 to Committee to Elect Michael Sheehy)

Wednesday, June 21

Rep. Michael O'Brien (D-Warren) fundraiser, Westies Gastropub, 940 S. Front St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Friend: \$250 to Committee to Elect Michael J. O'Brien)

Thursday, June 22

Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) and Rep. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Premium Beverage Supply, Tasting Room, 3701 Lacon Rd., Hilliard, 5:30 p.m., (\$500 Event Host | \$250 Event Sponsor | \$100 per Couple | \$75 per Person to Citizens for Stephanie Kunze or Committee for Jim Hughes)

Sunday, June 25

DeWine family ice cream social, 2587 Conley Rd., Cedarville, 1 p.m.

Monday, June 26

Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) golf outing fundraiser, Marion Country Club, 2415 Crissinger Road, Marion, 11:30 a.m., (11:30am Registration and Lunch; 12:30pm Shotgun Start; 5:00pm Reception. Hole Sponsor with Foursome: \$1,500; Foursome: \$1,000; Hole Sponsor with Twosome: \$750; Individual Golfer PAC: \$250; Individual Golfer Personal: \$150; Reception Only: \$50 to Pelanda for State Representative)

Tuesday, June 27

Ohio House Democratic Caucus fundraiser, Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 555 N. High St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Supporter: \$500; Friend: \$250; Individual: \$35 to House Democratic Caucus Fund)

Tuesday, July 11

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) Lake Erie fundraiser, Dock's Beach House, 252 W. Lakeshore Drive, Port Clinton, 4 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Guest: \$500 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Thursday, July 13

Rep. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Golf Club, 211 Carpenter Road, Defiance, 11 a.m., (Golf Outing; Thursday, July 13, 2017; 11:00am Registration and Lunch; 12:00pm Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$2,500; Tee Sponsor: \$1,000; Green Sponsor: \$500; Foursome: \$400; Individual Golfer: \$100 to Citizens for McColley)

Sen. Lou Terhar (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Kenwood Country Club, 6501 Kenwood Rd., Cincinnati, 6 p.m., (Special guest: State Auditor Dave Yost. \$2,500 Event Sponsor; \$1,000 Event Host to Friends of Lou Terhar)

Friday, July 14

Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) golf outing fundraiser, Meadowbrook at Clayton, 6001 Salem Avenue, Clayton, 9 a.m., (9:00am Registration; 10:00am Shotgun Start. Host Sponsor: \$2,500; On-the-Green Supporter: \$1,000; Out-of-the-Bunker Supporter: \$600; Foursome: \$450; Hole Sponsor: \$150; Individual Golfer: \$125 to Citizens for Rezabek)

Monday, July 17

Sen. President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) golf outing fundraiser, Westfield Group Country Club, 6500 Greenwich Rd., Westfield Center, 9:30 a.m., (Citizens for Obhof)

Wednesday, July 19

American Legislative Exchange Council annual meeting, Denver

Thursday, July 20

American Legislative Exchange Council annual meeting, Denver

Friday, July 21

American Legislative Exchange Council annual meeting, Denver

Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, July 24

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) golf outing fundraiser, Sycamore Springs Golf Course, 11492 Township Rd. 25, Arlington, 10 a.m., (10 am shotgun start. Ricochet Acres Sponsor \$2,500 | Event Sponsor \$1,000 | Team \$600 | Individual Golfer \$150 | Tee Sponsor Sign \$150 | Green Sponsor Sign \$150 to The Committee to Elect Cliff Hite)

Thursday, July 27

Rep. Scott Wiggam (R-Wooster) golf outing fundraiser

Sunday, August 6

National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Summit, Boston

Monday, August 7

National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Summit, Boston

Tuesday, August 8

National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Summit, Boston

Wednesday, August 9

National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Summit, Boston

Thursday, August 10

Rep. Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Golf Club, 211 Carpenter Rd., Defiance, 9 a.m., (9 am registration; 10 am shotgun start. \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$400 or \$100 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel)

Monday, August 14

Rep. Mike Henne (R-Clayton) golf outing fundraiser

Tuesday, August 15

Republican Senate Campaign Committee 5th Annual Senate President's Cup golf outing, Double Eagle Golf Club, 6025 Cheshire Rd., Galena, 9 a.m., (9:00am Breakfast | 10:00am Tee Times. \$10,000 Event Host | 5,000 Event Sponsor | \$2,500 per Golfer to Citizens for Obhof)

Thursday, August 17

Rep. Keith Faber (R-Celina) golf outing fundraiser

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) fundraiser, Progressive Field, 2401 Ontario St., Cleveland, 5:30 p.m.,
(Friends of Matt Dolan)

Friday, August 18

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) fly fishing fundraiser, Spring Run Farms, 9206 Haddix Road, Fairborn, 10 a.m., (\$1,000 Pike Sponsor | \$500 Salmon Sponsor | \$350 Trout Sponsor | \$125 per couple/family | \$100 per Individual to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Monday, August 21

Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) golf outing fundraiser, Urbana Country Club, 4761 US-36, Urbana, (9:00 am Registration | 10:00 am Shotgun Start | Lunch at the turn on the go | 2:30 pm Short Program. \$1,000 Tournament Sponsor; \$600 Eagle Sponsor; \$200 Hole Sponsor; \$100 Golfer)

Thursday, August 24**Hamilton County GOP State Legislators golf outing fundraiser**

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) golf outing fundraiser, London Country Club, 1199 Spring Valley Rd., London, 9 a.m., (9:00am Registration | 10:00am Shotgun Start. \$1,000 Ace Sponsor, \$700 Eagle Sponsor, \$500 Cart Sponsorship, \$250 Hole Sponsorship, \$150 Cart Sponsorship, \$100 Tee Sponsorship, \$85 Individual to Hackett for Ohio)

Monday, August 28**Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) golf outing fundraiser****Thursday, September 14**

Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) Day at the Races fundraiser, Belterra, 6301 Kellogg Rd., Cincinnati, (The Committee to Elect Joe Uecker)

Monday, September 18

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Country Club, 211 Carpenter Rd., Defiance, (The Committee to Elect Cliff Hite)

Sunday, October 1

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$25 per Person or \$50 per Family to Peterson for Good Government)

Monday, October 2

OHROC Chairman's Cup golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, October 19

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (Please make checks payable to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (Please make checks payable to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

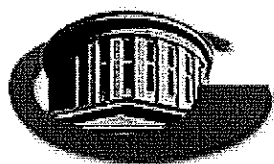
17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, June 3-Monday, June 5

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Monday, June 5

Savings and Loan Associations & Savings Banks Board, Division of Financial Institutions, 77 South High Street, 21st Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Event Planner

Monday, June 5

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, Crown Hill Country Club, 9500 US 22, Williamsport, 12 p.m., (\$2,000 Tournament Sponsor - includes 4 golfers, a hole sponsorship and signage at the Club house; \$1,000 Eagle Sponsor - includes 4 golfers and a hole sponsorship; \$500 Birdie Sponsor - includes 2 golfers and a hole sponsorship; \$200 Hole Sponsor; \$100 Individual Golfer - includes lunch, refreshments, dinner, team awards and skill contests \$50 Dinner & Drinks to Peterson for Good Government)

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Rocky River Event Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, 5:30 p.m., (Platinum Event Sponsor: \$1,000; Gold Sponsor: \$175; Silver Sponsor: \$125; Bronze Sponsor: \$50; Single Ticket: \$25/person to Friends of Dave Greenspan)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | **Fax:** 614-221-7844 | **Email:** gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed,
Staff Writers

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

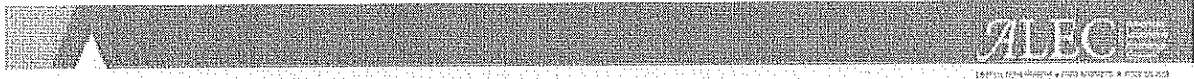
Sarah, Transform Your Relationship With Your Constituents. For Free

1 message

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 11:20 AM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).



Dear Representative LaTourette,

As a legislator, you wear more than one hat: balancing your roles at home, work and in government. You deserve a break anywhere you can get one.

ALEC CARE is the growing, one-stop shop Constituent Relationship Management (**CRM**) tool for legislators. This dynamic tool allows elected officials to prioritize and spend time where it matters by eliminating manual data entry and proactively recording every constituent interaction - building stronger relationships and surfacing key insights into your community.

Would it be even better if that tool was free?

ALEC CARE is 100% free with your ALEC membership. So what is there to lose?

Find out what ALEC members consider one of the most valuable benefits we offer.

Sign up for a personal demonstration to see how it can benefit you.

Click here and a member of our team will reach out to schedule a 20 - minute demonstration.

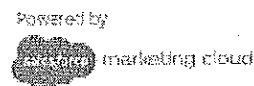
I hope you will take advantage of this valuable, **FREE** tool.

Sincerely,

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
State Chair, OH

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

A Fond Farewell

1 message

Laurel Buckley <lbuckley@alec.org>

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:03 PM

It is with excitement that I announce my departure from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). It has been such an honor to be a part of the ALEC team for the past four years. I enjoyed my time here and appreciate being part of such a great organization. Thank you for the encouragement, support and friendship during my years at ALEC. It was a pleasure working with you and I hope we can continue to work together.

On Monday I will begin a new chapter as the Director of Development at the Liberty Justice Center. I do hope we can continue our friendship. Please feel free to contact me via email at laureljane.buckley@gmail.com or phone at 815-830-4811.

If you need anything here at ALEC, please contact Wes Fisher at WFisher@alec.org or via phone at 571-482-5051.

Until next time,

Laurel Buckley

Director of Development and Midwestern Relations

American Legislative Exchange Council

2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor

Arlington, VA 22202

C: (202) 689-9208

Email: lbuckley@alec.org

Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado

2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee

2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Sarah, have you seen the new Rich States, Poor States site yet?

1 message

American Legislative Exchange Council <kjohnson@alec.org>
To: latoursm@gmail.com

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:00 PM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

Center for State Fiscal Reform - June 6, 2017

Facebook



Twitter

44th ALEC Annual Meeting
JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

JULY 19-21

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
June 6, 2017

HOUSING CUT-OFF:
June 26, 2017

>> REGISTER NOW AT:
www.alec.org/meetings/

Join us for all the exciting events happening in Denver!

REGISTER NOW for ALEC Annual Meeting

[Click Here to Register Now](#)

ALEC Annual Meeting Updates**Early Bird Rates End TODAY and Surprise Guest Speaker Announced**

44th ALEC Annual Meeting | Register Today | NEW Speakers Announced

Hurry and **register** for the ALEC Annual Meeting before the early bird deadline ends **TODAY!****SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT:** Secretary Betsy DeVos has been confirmed to join ALEC in Denver to speak to what is


[View Meeting Agenda](#)

being done for Education issues at the state and federal levels. **Grace-Marie Turner** and **Avik Roy** will also be joining ALEC and the Health and Human Services Task Force to speak on the state of health care reform in the states.



Share



Tweet

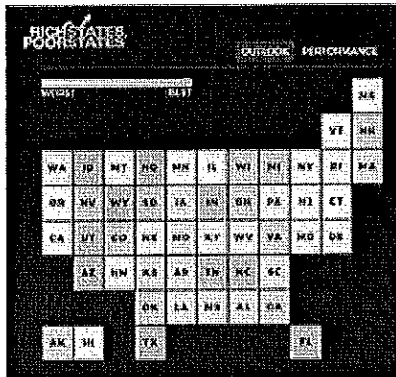


Forward

NEW: Center Website

Rich States, Poor States Website

The ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform | Richstatespoorstates.org


RichStatesPoorStates.org

Check out the new, official *Rich States, Poor States* website to examine the latest movements in state economic growth and competitiveness. With an interactive and easy to use interface, visitors can search and compare their states' economic outlook. **Click here** to find out how your state adds up!



Share



Tweet



Forward

Policy Center Update

Taxes, Pensions and Free Speech on Display in Salt Lake City

Christine Smith | Center for State Fiscal Reform


[Read the Full Update](#)

The ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform and the Center to Protect Free Speech joined Utah legislators May 17-19 in Salt Lake City. The event consisted of a nonpartisan policy training and a forum for legislators to discuss detailed policy solutions regarding pension reform, tax reform and priority-based budgeting, donor privacy and commercial speech. **Click here** to find out more.



Share



Tweet

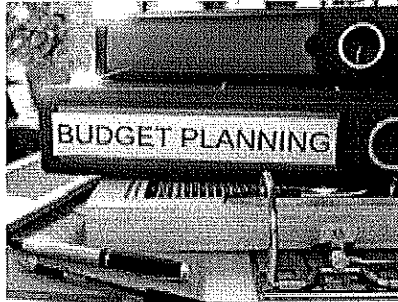


Forward

Administration Policy Update

Administration's Budget Reins in Spending, Predicts Enhanced GDP Growth

Elliot Young | Center for State Fiscal Reform | Tax Reform



The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 outlined an ambitious pro-growth agenda—addressing discretionary as well as entitlement spending. [Click here](#) to find out the Administration's budget highlights.



Share



Tweet



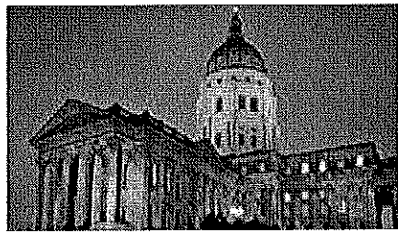
Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

Expert Opinion

On the Beyond Budget Impasse, Look Beyond the Media Hype to the Facts

The Hill | Joel Griffith | Senator Ty Masterson, KY



The impasse in Topeka over how to resolve the budget gap and whether to impose drastic tax hikes has captured the attention of both the state and the nation. [Click here](#) to find out how Kansas plans to minimize the tax burden of job creators, entrepreneurs and workers.



Share



Tweet



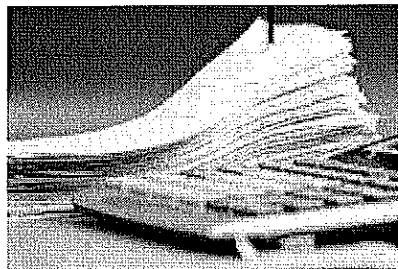
Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

Expert Insight

Addressing States' Budget Deficits: Performance-Based Outcome Budgeting

Huffington Post | Bob Williams | President, State Budget Solutions



Bob Williams, President of State Budget Solutions and Senior ALEC Scholar, lays out how states are masking long-term budget deficits through accounting gimmicks—spurring the risk of a severe financial crisis. [Read more.](#)



Share



Tweet



Forward

[Read the Full Article](#)

Connect With Us for the Latest Updates



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn




YouTube

7/25/2018

Gmail - Sarah, have you seen the new Rich States, Poor States site yet?

This email was sent to: latoursm@gmail.com

Powered by
 marketing cloud

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States

We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Sarah LaTourette Kayser <latoursm@gmail.com>

Ohio Report, Tuesday, June 6, 2017

1 message

Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com>
To: sml@sarahlatourette.com

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 7:19 PM

[OHIO REPORT](#)[View in a browser](#)[News](#) [Bill Tracking](#) [Legislation](#)**OHIO REPORT
TUESDAY, JUNE 6****State Tax Revenue Continues To Tank But Budget Office Still Sees
Coffers Ending Fiscal Year In The Black****Agencies Ask Senate To Keep House Budget Changes On Drug Crisis****Opponents Propose Making OVEC Subsidy Bypassable, Seek Other
Changes****Business, City Interests Urge Retention Of House Amendments To BWC
Budget****House Panel Advances Computer Science Learning Standards Opposed
By Democrats****Employees Push Back Against Employer-Mandated Flu Vaccinations****Industry, Environmental Groups Plug Bill To Address 'Orphan' Oil And
Gas Wells Across State****Prosecutors Continue Opposition To Death Penalty Exemption Bill****Study Finds Ohio's Open Enrollees Score Better On State Exams, Are
More Likely To Graduate On Time****Politics Notebook: Lawmaker Wants State Park Drilling Out Of Budget;
Renacci Pans Columbus Immigrant Vote; Chamber Opposes Drug Issue**

Agency Briefs: Aviation Panel Announces Appointees; OPP Meeting Postponed Third Time; Auditor; DSA

Governor's Appointments

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Senate Committee Hearings

Insurance & Financial Institutions

Finance

Government Oversight & Reform

House Committee Hearings

Ways & Means

Criminal Justice

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

Energy & Natural Resources

Federalism & Interstate Relations

Public Utilities

Education & Career Readiness

ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner